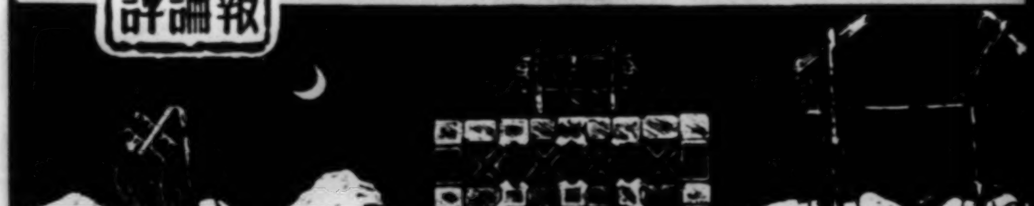
CHINA *monthly* REVIEW

密勒氏
評論報



LETTERS FROM AMERICAN P.O.W.'s

—Lieutenants John Quinn, Floyd O'Neal, Paul Kniss—

PRIVATE BUSINESS IN CHINA . . . *Harold Fletcher*

February 1953 ¥ 6,000

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

An American newsweekly that covers US and world events from the progressive point of view.

Order through the

CHINA MONTHLY REVIEW

¥75,000 a year, postage included.

CHINA STANDS UP

By R. K. Karanjia

Written by the editor of *Blitz*, the Bombay weekly, who made an extensive tour of China, visiting factories, conservancy projects and new housing developments, and talked to the workers and peasants who are building a new China.

264 pp. £ -/12/6

Order from:

People's Publishing House
India
Bombay 4

or

Guodzi Shudian
38 Soochow Hutung
Peking

China Monthly Review

(J. B. Powell, Editor & Publisher 1918-1947)

Volume 124 **Number 2**

February 1953

Editor:
JOHN W. POWELL

Associate Editors:
JULIAN SCHUMAN
SYLVIA CAMPBELL

Business Manager:
CHEN PANG-CHENG

Contributing Editors:

SHIRLEY BARTON
WILLIAM BERGES
BETTY C. CHANG
CHANG SHU-CHI
SOPHIA CHANG
CHEN FU-SHENG
HUGH DEANE
ALUN FALCONER
HO TUN-SUN
HSU CHIEN
H. C. HUANG
KAO FAN
T. P. KING
DUNCAN C. LEE
MARK M. LU
C. Y. W. MENG
MARGARET TURNER
P. Y. WANG
WANG TSUNG-YEN
ROSE YARDUMIAN

密勒氏
評論報

The Month in Review

Stalling the Peace Talks 119
Sino-Soviet Friendship 121
The Tyrant is Tamed—by Ray Gardner..... 126
Justice in New China—Joseph Starobin 137
Private Business in China—Harold Fletcher .. 142
Service to the People—C. R. Chi 149
Korean Students—K. J. Wei 152
A People's Soldier—by Rewi Alley 155
Made in China—Yang Li-hsin 159
A Place for Workers 162
Religion in China Today—Talitha Gerlach .. 164
Letter to a Former Schoolmate 171
Report from Ipin—Chang Jen-kai 175
Letters from American POW's 178
China Notes 187
"Reunion"—a true story 191
People and Places in New China—
Julian Schuman 195
Minorities in Yunnan—Chang Shu-i 206
International Notes 210
Books of Interest 215
Report to Readers 219

Cable Address "Reviewing" Shanghai
Telephone: 14772

Published at 160 Yenan Road (Eastern), Shanghai (0) China, by China Monthly Review Publishing Company. Printed by Millington Limited, 117 Hongkong Road, Shanghai, China.

LETTERS
From the People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.

In the past several months, the *Review* has received numerous complaints from subscribers in the USA reporting an unusually large number of missing copies. More recently, the number of complaints has risen greatly. Consequently, we sent a letter to all subscribers in America asking them to report missing copies, and offering to adjust their subscriptions accordingly. In the past few weeks we have received several dozen letters in answer. Here is a sampling of them: (In view of the atmosphere currently prevailing in the United States, we have felt it advisable to identify the writers by their initials only.—Editor).

CALIFORNIA

I am taking a number of papers and magazines and pass them on to friends, and so I have not kept a close check. However, I have here your June issue, and that seems to be the last one I received. It will all work out in time, and while we are at present somewhat "muzzled" here, it is gratifying to follow the wonderful progress being made at your end of the line. It is really "something new in the world," to cause folks everywhere to sit up and take notice. A Higher Power than most know is quite certainly at work, and will continue along that line.

J. P. M.

* * *

CLEVELAND, OHIO

I have never received any copies. It would be useless and even quixotic to inquire. Real repression exists. I'm having a friend abroad secure your magazine and mail it to me. Thus you will have two readers! Be of good heart. There is great progress in spite of all obstacles.

L. O. G.

* * *

HONOLULU, T.H.

Well, today I found out why there's been such a long delay getting the Review. I called Customs and they told me to call the postoffice. Because the solicitor in Washington, after examining the Review, found it to contain "political propaganda," he declared it inadmissible to the mail. Not only that, but they've destroyed the magazines on hand. I asked why they never informed me of that. They don't inform the addressee, they told

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	Six Months	*One Year*
China	¥35,000	¥68,000
Student Rates	¥32,000	¥60,000
UNITED STATES		US$ 3.00
AUSTRALIA		A£ 1- 0- 0
BURMA		Rs. 10.00
CANADA		C$ 3.00
GREAT BRITAIN		£ 0-16- 0
HONGKONG		HK$ 18.00
INDIA		Rs. 10.00
INDONESIA		Guilder 40.00
MALAYA, SOUTH SEAS		St$ 9.00
PAKISTAN		Rs. 7.00
THAILAND		Baht 50.00

me.

As you might imagine, I got pretty hotheaded about it but of course that didn't do any good. They're now in the book-burning stage here. You may have seen that they're also enforcing an amendment to a 1937 housing bill which makes the loyalty oath a prerequisite to living in any housing project that's been financed by federal funds. With that kind of law, of course, they can make it illegal to ride on a federal highway or buy a federal postage stamp—unless you've taken the loyalty oath. Remember, one used to wonder how the German people could let Hitler happen?

E. R.

* * *

NEW ENGLAND

The only issue of **China Monthly Review** which we have not received recently is that for March 1952. As we bind this periodical annually, we would prefer, if possible, to have this missing issue replaced. If, however, this cannot be done, we shall accept a one month's extension of our subscription.

A public library

* * *

KANSAS

It has been several months since I have received the **Review**. I have been on the government's black list for many years and am not surprised they won't let me get it. However, this widespread stoppage of the **Review** coming to subscribers in the States is most likely due to your articles on germ warfare. The Pentagon has good reasons to hide the facts from our people. I do not want you to make good the missing copies as you are not to be blamed for the corruption of our elected officials. Put me down for another year and let me know the cost.

O. W. J.

* * *

CALIFORNIA

We have received all issues through July 1952.

A university.

* * *

CALIFORNIA

Have missed last two issues. Maybe US authorities are holding them up to get names of those in our country "subversive" enough to want to know what's really going on in China. If so, here's my name for 'em again. I am not satisfied to remain in ignorance behind the Truman-Acheson iron curtain.

A. E. S.

* * *

WASHINGTON, D.C.

We failed to receive the **Review** for December 1951, and January-May 1952, a total of six issues. We shall therefore appreciate an extension of our subscription.

International Monetary Fund

* * *

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The last issue I received was for June. Your magazine is the most reliable source of news and information that I receive about the true conditions in China today as we cannot depend on the press or radio in this country to tell us the facts about what is really happening in the world. The American people are the worst-informed people in the world today instead of the best-informed as they should be with their 1,785 daily newspapers, which contain, with the exception of perhaps a dozen papers, just a lot of propaganda and lies. Wishing you every success in your fight to inform the world as to the true conditions in China today.

T. A. K.

* * *

LOS ANGELES

All issues have been received and enjoyed. We congratulate you on getting out a very fine publication both technically and especially as to content. We thank you for a good job.

M. F.

* * *

FLORIDA

I ordered your magazine in March, but I have not received one copy to date. Am very much interested in what is taking place in China, economically and socially, and I do hope I will receive my copy of your magazine.

M. E. C.

Democratic
GERMAN REPORT
a fortnightly published by John Peet, chronicles developments in the German Democratic Republic.

Subscriptions at
Guodzi Shudian, 38
Soochow Hutung,
Peking

PENNSYLVIANIA

We wish to advise you that we have received nothing since December 1951.

A college

* * *

ILLINOIS

The last issue we received was the November 1951 issue. We have received no issues since then and would greatly appreciate it if it will be possible for us to have this publication sent to us again.

A public library.

* * *

CALIFORNIA

Something has stopped my receiving the **Review** magazine. The last issue I received was for August 1952. My magazine "Soviet Union" has also stopped. Don't we have a devil of a time getting information from behind the "bamboo" and "iron curtain."

C. L. M.

* * *

OREGON

I was glad to get your letter and to know that you too realized something was mighty peculiar about the way the Review was coming through so irregularly.

When I didn't get four issues in a row, I made a fuss with my local post-office, but they assured me that they had never heard of it and wouldn't hold up any of my mail. I guess they hadn't. Must have been some people far more important than they to take this liberty with our personal mail.

And it must be that your magazine is getting better and better if they feel so strongly about our not reading it!

Put me down for another year. One way to get my back up is to tell me I'm not supposed to read certain material. It always makes me go to all pains to read it, so I hope you can find some way of getting your magazine here regularly. We must know what's going on in that great country China if we are to have peace, and your magazine is the only reliable source I've seen so far.

A. S.

Letter to Subscribers in the USA

Dear Friends:

Since we first wrote asking you to report missing copies, we have solved the "mystery." Several subscribers have reported the results of their investigations. Here is what one reader in California writes:

"The US postoffice has confiscated and destroyed all copies it has been able to spot. It has done this under 18 Code 1717, a regulation containing a number of unrepealed war-time restrictions. An inquiry to the postoffice as to what specifically was objectionable in the *Review* brought forth the comment: 'This information is for postoffice employees only.'"

Among the types of material considered unmailable under this code are publications urging treason, insurrection, and so on.

None of the objections listed could be twisted to apply to the *Review*. This explains why the US postoffice, when pushed for a definite explanation, attempts to defend its action by saying that the reason cannot be made public. This is thought control, pure and simple.

Unpopularity with officialdom is not a new experience for us, although this is the first time the *Review* has experienced difficulties getting into the United States. An American-owned magazine established in Shanghai in 1917, the *Review* has always done its best to report accurately developments in China. As a result we are accustomed to trouble. In the 'twenties when we editorially endorsed the Nationalist movement as opposed to the regional warlord regimes, we encountered opposition from the foreign

(Continued on following page)

Letter to subscribers . . .

vested interests in China which preferred to see a weak and divided country.

In the 'thirties we opposed the Japanese invasion of China and warned of the coming Pacific War. The Japanese government banned the *Review*, seized copies from the mails and even tried to assassinate the editor. In the post-war period, the *Review* reported the corruption and degradation of Chiang Kai-shek's regime and foresaw its ignominious defeat. Again, we were at loggerheads with Chiang and his American supporters.

For the past three and a half years we have been carrying on as usual—giving our honest estimation of the new China, reporting the tremendous achievements which this country has made and is making. Again, we are met with hostility by the same old crowd: those who fear the truth. The *Review* is currently banned in Malaya by the British colonial authorities, in Japan by the American puppet Yoshida regime—and now in the United States distribution is interfered with by a government which fears lest its people learn a few basic truths about this part of the world—such as the fact that China has a progressive and honest government for the first time in its history, such as the facts of American germ warfare in Korea and China.

We have yet to trim our sails to prevailing winds and do not propose to do so now. We shall continue to report the developments here as we honestly see them and we shall continue to make every effort to see that your copy of the *Review* reaches you.

You can help by protesting this arbitrary official interference with the *Review* to your postmaster and to the Postmaster General in Washington. The government's action is illegal and cannot withstand public examination. If the protest is strong enough, Washington will have no alternative but to rescind it. We have great faith in our people and are convinced that they will not allow officialdom to put blinders on them, to decide what is "suitable" for them to read and think.

THE EDITORS.

The Month in Review

- *Stalling the Peace Talks*
- *Sino-Soviet Friendship*

Stalling the Peace Talks

FOR months peace in Korea has been held up by one single issue, the return of prisoners of war. The issue has become buried in terms such as "forcible repatriation," "voluntary repatriation," and "human rights," and in the meantime the war continues. However, there is a simple child's game called "supposing" that might help straighten this out.

"Supposing" the shoe were on the other foot. What if it were the Korean and Chinese side that claimed half the American prisoners in their hands refused to return home? "Supposing" they further claimed that a great number of their captives had tattooed themselves with anti-US slogans, and had signed statements in blood that they refused to return to the US and their families? How would the American public react to claims such as these?

Carrying this a little further, "supposing" official Korean and Chinese reports stated that American prisoners of war had committed suicide in camps which had been set aside for prisoners who do not want to go back to the US and that there had been numerous riots and demonstrations in the course of which several hundred American prisoners over the past year or more have been killed and wounded by their guards. [On November 29, 1952, the pro-UN International Red Cross Committee disclosed that "a total of 13,814 Communist prisoners of war . . . had died in UN hands between the outbreak of the Korean war and the end of 1951."]

"Supposing" that Korean and Chinese guards announced that they had been "forced" to kill a number of "fanatic" American POW's who had insisted on singing the "Star Spangled Banner" on last July 4? This is what happened last October 1 to Chinese prisoners of war in American hands when they tried to celebrate their National Day.

What would the American people say if Korean and Chinese generals and high government officials stated they will not "drive American prisoners of war back at the point of a bayonet;" yet, at the same time, the number of prisoners killed or wounded in POW camps averaged at least six a day in the last three months of 1952, as was the case with Chinese and Korean prisoners in US hands? Would the American people not be justified in believing that extreme pressure was being used to try to make American prisoners say they do not want to go home?

If the shoe were on the other foot, would not the Americans indignantly point out that no self-respecting nation, which is undefeated on the battlefield, could agree to the opposing side's holding back prisoners of war!

THE record is available for all who want to see it. The Koreans and Chinese are standing by the Geneva Convention of 1949 which stipulates that **all** prisoners must be returned to their homeland. The US, meanwhile, insists that **all** United Nations prisoners be returned and in exchange they will release **part** of the Korean and Chinese troops they hold.

Despite occasional grumblings by their "allies," the Americans have used their topsy-turvy stand to prolong the war. The war in Korea could be stopped immediately if the American negotiators were of a mind to do so. But by their actions, in complete disregard of the majority of the American people who in a Gallup Poll voted for an end to the Korean war, they have shown they want to continue the war.

For the American people the hour is critical. While there is still time the people of the US must stand up and demand that the prisoner of war hoax be discarded and a peace signed in Korea.

Sino-Soviet Friendship

THE relationship between China and the Soviet Union has become a favorite subject for Western political analyists, who provide a new interpretation or explanation with almost each passing week.

It is not unusual to pick up a copy of one of the major British or American papers and see, in the very same issue, two contradictory analyses of this relationship. One may say that the latest indications are that a split between the two countries is in the offing, while the other will, in just as authoritative a tone, declare that all evidence points to China's colonization by the Soviet Union.

Since the recent month-long celebration of Sino-Soviet Friendship Month in this country and in the Soviet Union, the usual flurry of such speculative stories has turned into a virtual snow storm. And, as usual, there are about as many explanations as there are explainers.

Why is it that the Western pundits are so preoccupied with this subject? And why is it that they produce such a welter of conflicting theories?

There are many reasons, but two stand out most sharply: 1) So long as China and the Soviet Union (and, of course, the Eastern European people's democracies) maintain a close friendship, the prospects for a Western victory in a possible third world war are pretty hopeless. Thus, the great interest in looking for signs of a possible rupture in this friendship.

2) Starting out with the premise that all international relations must be based—as are those between the United States, Britain, France and the rest of the Western allies—on power politics, on the dictates of narrow self-interest, the pundits are unable to visualize a situation where real harmony actually exists between sovereign powers.

Thus, we see Western observers refusing to accept a speech by a Chinese or Soviet government official on the friendly relations of the two countries at its face value. Likewise, this explains why the various treaties and agreements signed between China and the Soviet Union are put under a microscope in Western capitals to "determine their **real** meaning." And why, when no "signs of conflict" can be detected in the documents themselves, it is automatically charged that there **must** be secret clauses.

Western observers, in this respect, are not unlike the three blind men who examined an elephant and then gave their descriptions of it. The one who grabbed the tail insisted that it was much like a rope, the one who felt the trunk declared it to be a tree-like affair, while the third, who felt one side of the animal, insisted that it was nothing but a big wall.

BUT what is the actual situation? It is relatively simple. An unprecedented degree of friendship does exist between China and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is the world's first socialist state and China is a new people's democracy starting out on the road to socialism. It thus logically follows that they have a large community of interests. The Chinese people naturally wish to profit by the experience gained by the Soviet people during the past 35 years.

There is a further bond which unites the two peoples. Both operate on the basis of constant—geometric—expansion of production. Anything which interferes with this is undesirable so both desire peace above all. China, for instance, must double and redouble her industrial base before she can become a socialist country.

Consequently, the last thing in the world these two countries desire is a new war or even an armaments race. Every new soldier means just one less producer, every tank or airplane means just one less tractor or piece of construction machinery.

While doing their utmost to promote peace and avoid war, both countries are acutely aware that despite their best efforts, war may yet be thrust upon them. The Soviet Union has had two major experiences: The allied intervention after the First World War and the Nazi invasion during the Second World War were both openly announced attempts to change by force the form of government chosen by the Soviet people.

China, despite the fact that its people's democracy is only three years old, has also had similar experiences: MacArthur's march to the Yalu River and the announced intention to establish a "buffer zone" made up of Chinese territory, the frequent American air raids (and germ bombings) on Chinese cities and villages, the US protection, support and direction of Chiang Kai-shek's remnant regime on Taiwan.

A common desire for peace and a determination to protect and further develop the political and economic systems they have chosen from outside attempts to change them thus constitutes a further bond between the Chinese and Soviet peoples.

BUT what are the concrete expressions of Chinese-Soviet friendship?

The most recent was the celebration of Sino-Soviet Friendship Month, which was highlighted by the visit to China of a 300-member Soviet cultural troupe made up of ranking performers in various fields. The troupe, divided into several units, toured the entire country, performing before a record theater and radio audience of some 20,000,000 people.

Recently we had a personal look at another aspect of this relationship during a visit to Shenyang (Mukden) and nearby Fushun, a major industrial and mining complex in China's Northeast (Manchuria), an area repeatedly described by Western observers as having been torn from China and incorporated into the Soviet Union.

We found no Soviets, tommygun-toting or otherwise, only Chinese, who occupied all positions from that of ordinary workers, foremen and engineers up to mine and mill managers and officials in the various economic commissions and bureaus. All spoke of the area's contribution to the production and economic development of China—not the Soviet Union.

In fact, about all we saw that had any connection with the Soviet Union was machinery, trucks, buses, tractors, threshers and the like. One large machine tool factory we inspected, for example, was equipped with a combination of Chinese and Soviet machines. While many of the lathes and other machines were China made, most of the larger more complicated machine tools were modern Soviet models.

As an American economist who went through the factory with us said, "If the Soviet Union really planned to colonize China, she'd hardly be giving the Chinese machines like these." An American engineer added, "This is just the kind of stuff you'd never let a colonial country get its hands on. That one there," he continued, pointing to a complex giant occupying one entire corner of a large work room where machine tools were being turned out on an assembly line basis, "can handle about a dozen jobs and is worth a small fortune in itself."

Another indication of how the Chinese feel about their relations with the Soviet Union is the frequent praise one hears of Soviet technicians who have made such a great contribution to China's rapid economic progress during the past three years. In Shenyang and Fushun, in Nanking and all along the Huai River, workers and engineers were always pointing to this or that and saying that a refinement or a new design suggested by a Soviet adviser saved such and such an amount of steel or cement, reduced the construction time by so many days, and so on.

As with the pudding, the proof of which is in the eating, so it is with Sino-Soviet relations. The Chinese are obviously well satisfied and that's that. Just as the pundits waste their time in analyzing each and every speech in their hunt for inflections and hidden meanings which aren't there, so the Voice of America wastes its breath bemoaning the Chinese people's sad plight now that they have fallen victims to "Soviet imperialism." The Chinese people, as a result of long personal experience, believe that they know imperialism when they see it—and they are convinced that the imperialism they now see rides on the tanks and bayonets of the American soldiers in Korea, rather than on the tractors and machine tools coming from the Soviet Union.

◆

COVER PICTURE

"Emergency Repairs on the Yalu River Bridge," a woodcut by Tseng Liang-chu.

The Tyrant Is Tamed

RAY GARDNER

IN old China there were three tyrants oppressing and impoverishing the people: Chiang Kai-shek, imperialism and the Huai River. All the world knows what happened to Chiang and the imperialists. Now what needs to be told is the story of what has happened to the Huai River, of how it is being transformed from tyrant into a servant of the people.

The taming of the Huai was accomplished in the same manner as the defeat of Chiang: by mobilizing the workers and peasants and by utilizing the special skills of intellectuals and technicians. Just as the people, in the beginning, used the most simple weapons and even their bare hands, to fight the well-armed Chiang, so have they used the most rudimentary equipment to conquer the Huai. In both instances, the spirit of the people has more than made up for the lack of modern equipment.

In two years, 10,000,000 workers and peasants, under the guidance of engineers and technicians, have defeated the flood menace of the Huai, reclaimed vast tracts of fertile land and created an enormous network of dams, reservoirs, dikes, irrigation canals and inland waterways for transport.

With hand shovels they have dug mountains of earth and have carried the earth away, not in trucks or with bull-dozers, but in small baskets, slung Chinese-style on either end of a pole. Not only trucks, but even wheelbarrows have been scarce.

With a party of peace delegates from seven nations, I had a three-day look at the Huai River project, saw completed dams

---

RAY GARDNER, a member of the Canadian delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference, is a former news editor of the Vancouver *Sun*. A newspaperman for the past 15 years, Mr. Gardner was (in 1947) the first Canadian winner of the Lord Kemsley Empire Scholarship in Journalism. He is at present secretary of the British Columbia Peace Council.

and waterways and watched thousands of men (and some women) at work on dam and ship lock sites. Weeks earlier, we had all scrambled over the Great Wall of China outside Peking. Now we are prepared to say that if the Great Wall is one of the Seven Wonders of the World then the Huai River project is the eighth and ninth wonders.

In a river boat we travelled down a wide canal, the North Kiangsu Canal, which stretches from 106 miles inland to the sea and which, when locks are finished, will take boats of 900 tons. An army of peasants, 1,300,000 strong, dug this great ditch by hand in 85 working days, taking turns at the work so their land might also be tilled. This canal, we found, has almost as many uses as those new-fangled vacuum cleaners they are always trying to sell us at home, in the States and Canada. It is not only an important part of the inland transportation system, but will control flood-waters and in all seasons will provide irrigation for a large area of formerly arid farm land.

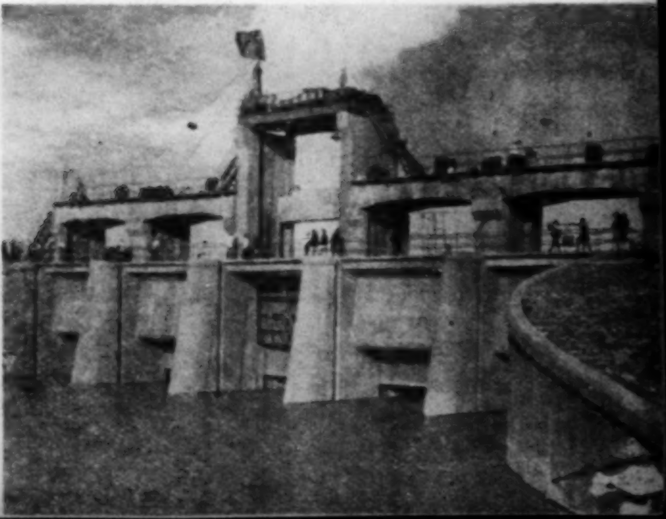
ANOTHER day we watched the excavation work on a new dam site, called San Ho. This was the most amazing scene I ever expect to encounter. Here were 60,000 men and women at work—the population of a medium-sized Canadian city, if you like—all in one area, small enough that almost the whole of it was in one's range of vision at one time.

Forty thousand were at work digging this huge ditch with ordinary shovels and carrying the earth away in baskets. They worked with such energy they seemed to buzz. Those with the baskets carried the earth at a dog trot from the bottom of the excavation to the crest of its embankments, chanting folk-labor

★

The Tung Fei River sluice gate was completed in 1952.

★



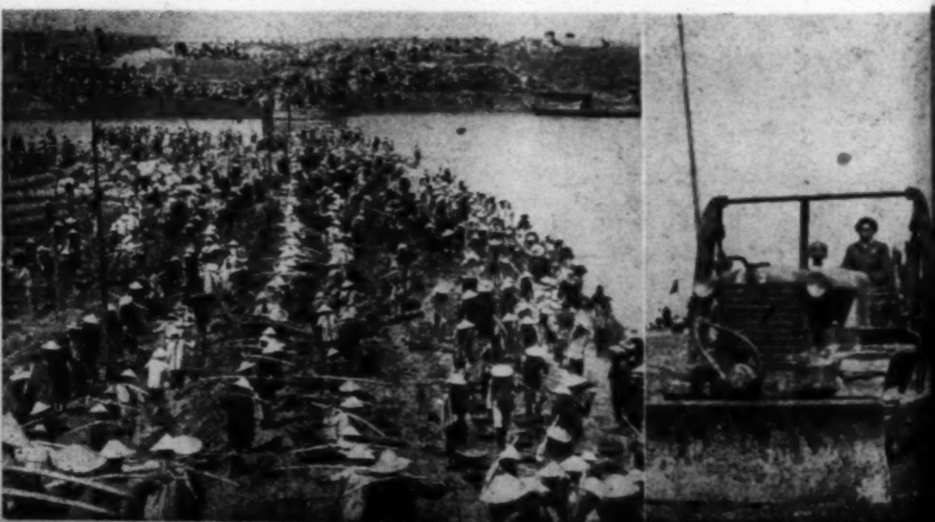
songs as they trotted, much as the Volga boatmen once sang to lighten their labor. The difference is that these songs strike a happy, confident note and are not the doleful lament of the unwilling worker.

To describe this scene of 60,000 men at work, with such enthusiasm, the whole site teeming with men on the move, yet seemingly never getting in one another's way—to describe it one is tempted to fall back on an easy figure of speech and say it was like a gigantic ant hill, swarming with life.

The figure is in many ways apt, except that it slights the dignity of the men whom we found to be proud of their work and, above all, extremely conscious of its social purpose. These were not men toiling grudgingly for some remote boss; they were all quite aware that they are working for themselves. In the past, nearly all had suffered dreadfully from the tyranny of Chiang Kai-shek and the Huai River and now, already, they had reaped substantial benefits from the harnessing of the Huai.

It was a bright sunny day, the day of our visit, with a slight breeze and all over the dam site brightly colored silk flags, banners and pennants snapped briskly in the breeze. These flags and banners were the symbol of their enthusiasm, they had been won in the friendly emulation competitions among the men and women.

Millions of volunteer paid workers are on the Huai River Project. At left, civilian workers on the Lan River dike. Center picture shows some of the heavy machinery being used at a reservoir site.



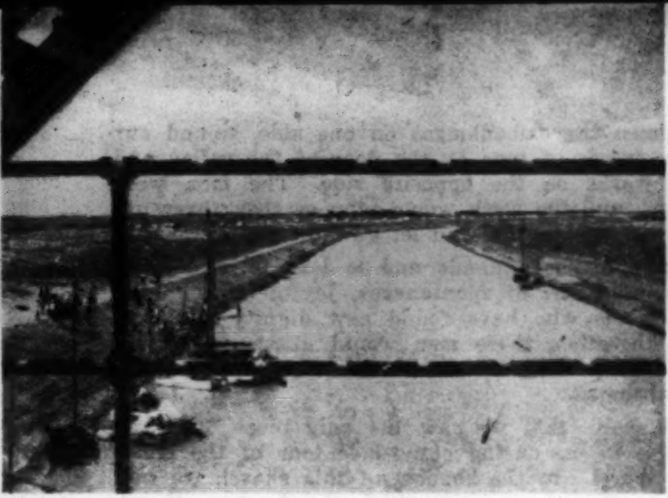
We walked down the embankment on one side, wound our way through the crowds of men on the floor of the valley and along the breast-works on the opposite side. The men were delighted to see us, and the work would stop as they threw up their hands, jumped into the air and let go with mighty cheers.

Often we'd stop to shake hands and to leap up and down with the workers in a sort of spontaneous, joyful dance. Like all the Chinese people who have found new dignity and confidence in their liberation, these men would grasp our hands with firmness and meet our glances with friendly, happy smiles. In a word, they beamed.

It was on this site that we saw the only piece of heavy equipment we were to see during our whole tour of the Huai, a modern steam shovel. In the shadow of this shovel, we saw the primitive, but effective way in which the loose earth on the embankments is pounded firm. This was done with a heavy (220-pound) round stone to which were attached eight ropes of equal length. With the ropes, eight men would throw the stone high over their heads and then let it crash down on the earth. This they would do to a rhythmic chant, punctuated by the drum-beat-like thud of stone on earth.

Given time, the Chinese people will have heavy modern equipment to do work like this. But to wait for equipment now would be to surrender millions of people for many years to the

People's Liberation Army men are also participating in the project. Picture at right shows an engineer explaining the theories of a generator to PLA men, who are getting technical training on the job.



★

The Hsi Fo River, one of the important tributaries of the Huai River, was recently dredged.

★

tyranny of flood and famine.

In every Westerner's mind's-eye picture of the old China, famine looms in the foreground against a background of flood. In the new China famine is unknown (there is, in fact, an exportable surplus of rice) as a result of land reform and water conservancy.

THE Huai is the largest but only one of many large water conservancy projects either completed or now under way. In the past three years, 20,000,000 people have taken part in these projects and the amount of earth they have moved equals the digging of 23 Suez Canals.

I have a whole notebook crammed with astronomical statistics and comparisons such as this: "The amount of earthwork already accomplished, if built into an embankment one yard high and one yard wide, would encircle the globe 43 times at the equator."

The Huai project, begun in the winter of 1950 and to be completed in 1955, will bring immeasurable benefits to an area of 49,900,000 acres (about the area of England and Scotland) and to a population of 60,000,000.

Most impressive feature of the project is its positive conception: the plan is not merely to eliminate the threat of flood, but to bend the river to the will of the people and make it serve them in many ways. More than 8,000,000 acres of land will be provided with constant irrigation. More than 3,000 miles of inland navigable waterways—the distance from Vancouver to Montreal—will be improved or created.

Large tracts of land that have been under water for so many generations they appear on the map as honest-to-goodness lakes are to be reclaimed. One day we drove for several hours past two such lakes, Kao Yu and Pao Ying, which were created by flood in 1194. These two lakes are now being drained to provide almost 300,000 acres of rich farmland. Here large, mechanized state farms will soon be established, blazing the way for the eventual mechanization of agriculture throughout the whole region.

The river project has already brought such richness to the valley that many peasants now own flashlights, an unheard of luxury in the past. Shortly, by the end of 1955, the novelty of flashlights will pale beside the bright light of electricity.

The topography of the Huai—a sprawing river rather than one of great turbulence—does not lend itself to hydro-electric development on an extremely large scale. But, nevertheless, many small hydro-stations are to be built and a great deal of power provided.

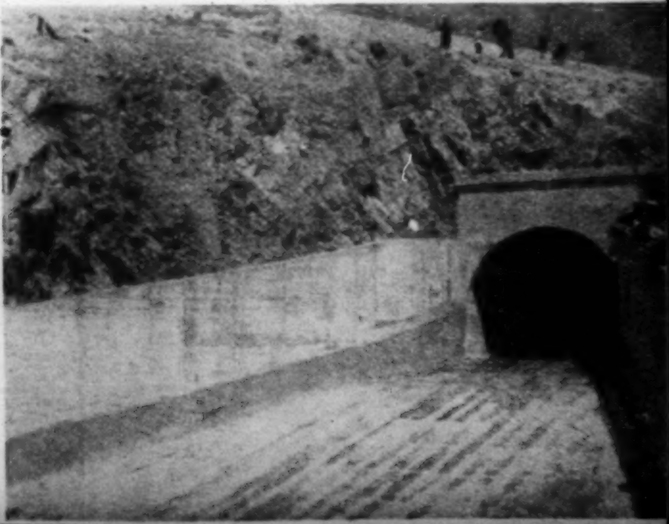
This is the glowing present and brilliant future of the Huai River; its past is checkered. The Huai is one of the big rivers of China, rising in the Tung Po mountains and coursing for 683 miles through four provinces—Honan, Anhwei, Shantung and Kiangsu. Historical records show there have been 979 floods along its course between 246 B.C. and 1948 A.D.—a flood every two years for more than 70 generations.

In the past no emperor or government ever made a serious effort to control the Huai, though there were intermittent programs of dike-building on a stop-gap scale. As we drove along

★

One of the diversion tunnels to carry off water from the Huai.

★



the Huai valley, we saw many life-size cast-iron cows. These, it turned out, were the relics of an age-old con game. It seems that one of the emperors levied exorbitant taxes on the pretext that the money would be spent for flood control. Instead, the emperor had himself a good time with most of the money and spent the rest on the iron cows: they were to ward off the evil spirits that brought the floods. Chiang Kai-shek worked similar tricks, and, for that matter, didn't even come through with as much as a cast-iron cow.

When the people's government came to power, it immediately began to evolve a comprehensive program for the Huai River and put the program into action. Mao Tse-tung himself issued what has now become the peaceful battle-cry of the whole nation: "The Huai River must be harnessed!" Under this slogan the whole country was mobilized to participate in harnessing the Huai. Now, in 1952, the flood menace has been successfully controlled, many irrigation projects are finished and, by and large, the problem has been whipped.

It wasn't all whipped by the pick and shovel labor of the peasants. One shouldn't imagine that harnessing the Huai consisted merely of moving mountains of earth by primitive means.

With the taming of the Huai, farmers can now look forward to bumper crops.

Dams and ship locks have been built that would do credit to the engineers of any land.

We visited two smaller dams. To the layman at least they looked as impressive as any similar structures to be seen anywhere. Engineers explained to us some of the new, advanced engineering methods that had been employed at the suggestion and with the assistance, at times, of Soviet technicians. These methods—too technical for explanation in an article of this nature—not only saved time and materials but did so without sacrificing the efficiency or durability of the finished structure.

Materials and machinery used in the construction of dams and reservoirs, of a type which China formerly imported, were made by Chinese workers in Shanghai and other industrial centers.

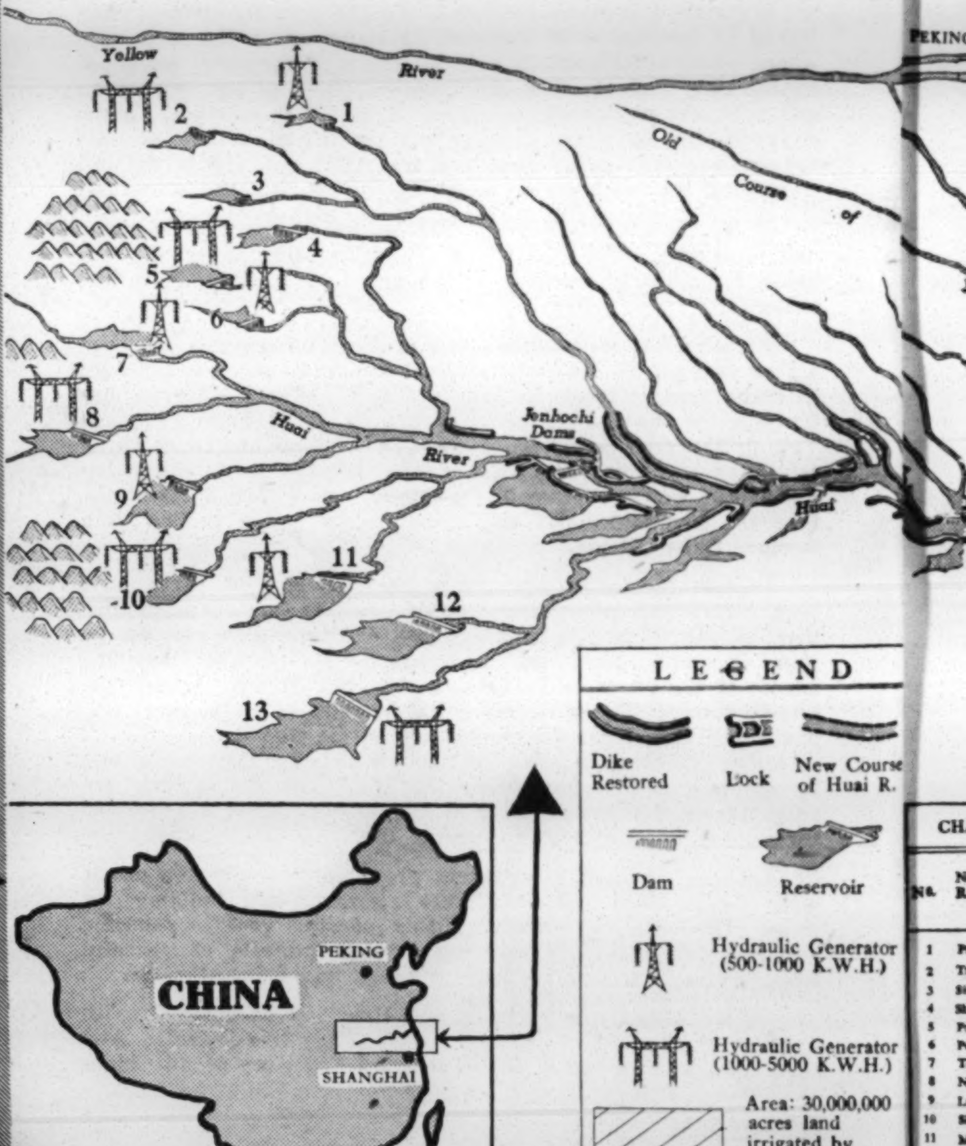
The unselfish assistance given by Soviet engineers has been a fine example of real international co-operation, quite different in every respect from the type of "help" offered other nations through the Marshall Plan or Truman's Point Four Program. Yet, in the final analysis, it was the Chinese engineers themselves who planned and carried through the work. It is indicative of women's place in the life of new China, incidentally, that the assistant chief engineer for the entire project is a woman, Chien Chen-ying.

Though we know how many cubic meters of earth have been moved and how many tons of concrete have been poured, there is one thing you cannot measure with a slide-rule or express in metric tons, and it happens to be the most inspiring aspect of the story of harnessing the Huai River. This is the human story of the happiness it has brought to the workers and peasants. The Huai River Project is, in the true sense of Abraham Lincoln's words, "of the people, for the people and by the people." In harnessing the Huai, the people have not only transformed nature, but in the process have transformed their material, social and cultural life.

The project itself is sufficient proof that the Chinese people want peace, need peace and are planning and building for peace. Obviously, a country that is pouring vast human and material resources into such tremendous projects of peaceful construction is a country bent on peace and opposed to war.

As we left, the workers of the Huai bid us farewell with a great shout of "Ho ping wan sui!" (Long live peace!) And that, come to think of it, is the peaceful battle-cry of all China.

HUAI RIVER


Yellow
River
PEKING
Old
Course
of
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
Huai
River
Jenhochi
Dams
Huai
LEGEND
Dike Restored
Lock
New Course of Huai R.
Dam
Reservoir
Hydraulic Generator (500-1000 K.W.H.)
Hydraulic Generator (1000-5000 K.W.H.)
Area: 30,000,000 acres land irrigated by N. Kiangsu Irrigation Canal
CHINA
PEKING
SHANGHAI

PROJECT

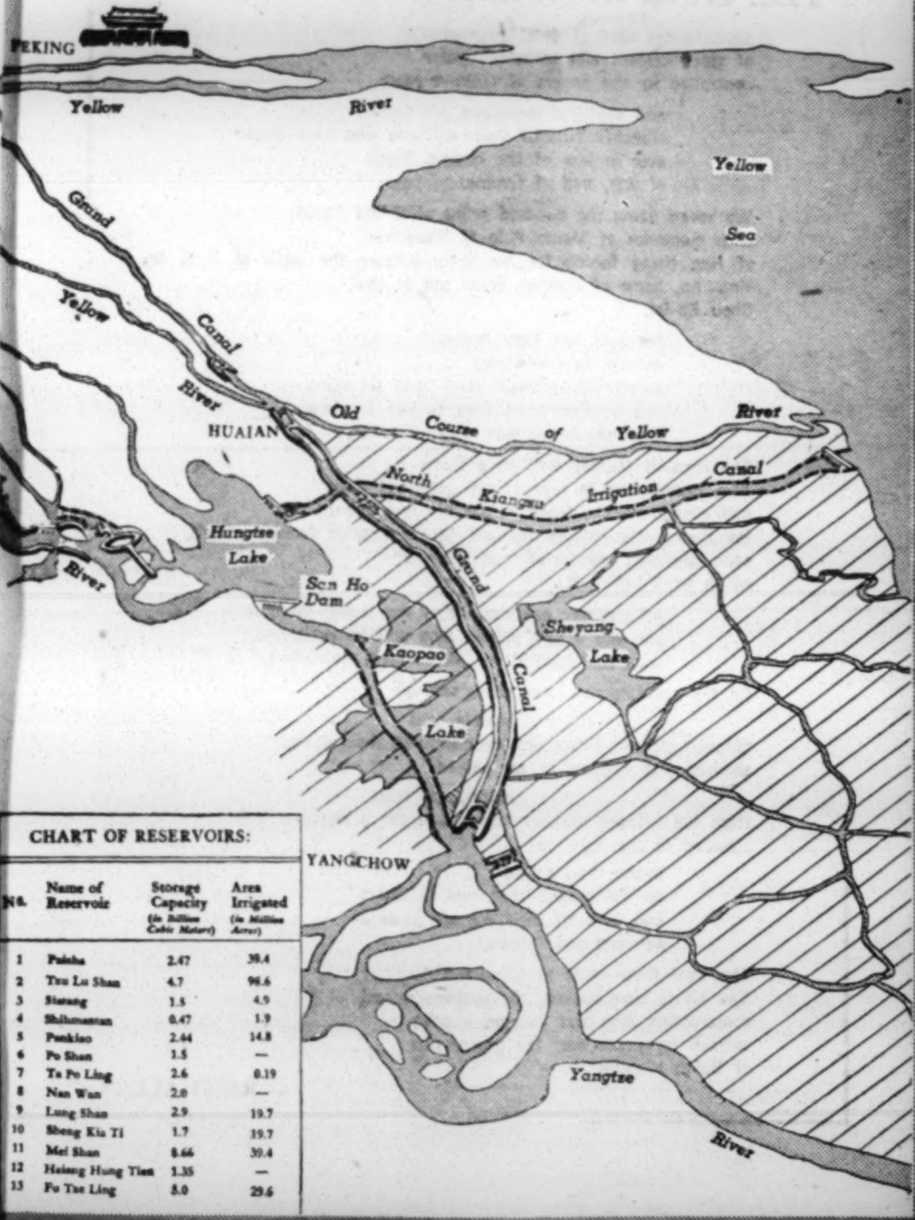


CHART OF RESERVOIRS:

No.	Name of Reservoir	Storage Capacity (in Billion Cubic Meters)	Area Irrigated (in Million Acres)
1	Paisha	2.47	39.4
2	Tsu Lu Shan	4.7	98.6
3	Siatang	1.5	4.9
4	Shihmantan	0.47	1.9
5	Penkiao	2.44	14.8
6	Po Shan	1.5	—
7	Ta Po Ling	2.6	0.19
8	Nan Wan	2.0	—
9	Lung Shan	2.9	19.7
10	Sheng Kia Ti	1.7	19.7
11	Mei Shan	8.66	39.4
12	Hsiang Hung Tien	1.35	—
13	Fu Tze Ling	8.0	29.6

THE HUAI IN NORTH KIANGSU • • •

Sluice gates open silently, a symphony
of steel, cement and turbulent water
controlled by the fingers of creative man;

and over the landscape are dotted
thatched huts of those millions who have lived
ever in fear of the certain floods,
of war, and of famine.

We speed along the hundred miles of Grand Canal
with memories of Marco Polo at Yangchow,
of Han Hsing fishing for his living outside the walls of Huai An,
Huai An, home of another great son of Han,
Chou En-lai.

Peasants left their homes,
women their kitchens,
schoolchildren their desks, and all along
this hundred miles they flocked to show
how they hated war, wanted peace.

Shy slips of country lads were there,
once growing up in fear of the conscript gang
and almost certain death before life had opened out
for them; now looking forward to cooperative farms, schools,
each day more wonderful than the one
which went before it.

An engineer explains, "Kao Pao Lake; from it
one and a half million mou will be reclaimed,
used as farmland for mechanized agriculture."

On the canal, great junks come sailing
stately sails
through autumn fields; junkmen climbed the rigging,
shouted and clapped as we passed;
a thousand men
from the villages, making foundations for a shipping lock
crowded to the roadside

bronze fists raised
on the ground that now is theirs
and with all their warmth bade us
welcome and farewell.

"The Huai River must be harnessed!"
The words were spoken, the millions moved,
construction rose and became a poem
written for peace over the countryside
of North Kiangsu.

— REWI ALLEY

A LOOK AT

Justice in New China

JOSEPH STAROBIN

CHINA'S minister of justice is a handsome woman in her middling years, not a member of the Communist Party but one of the many independent figures who play such a big role in public life here. A member of the Democratic League, she had been a well-known lawyer in Shanghai. It was in 1935 that Chiang Kai-shek had jailed her for too patriotic opposition to Japanese aggression.*

Her name is Shih Liang, and to her I brought many questions that arise in the minds of Americans when all the horror stories and atrocity propaganda about "Red China" is thrown at them day after day on the radio and in the press. Later I was able to see how Chinese courts work in two different cities, and what a Chinese prison looks like. Her general introduction to the functioning of justice in China proved very useful.

Her ministry is separated from that of public security; it deals solely with the administration of justice. When I commented on the fact that such a high task fell on the shoulders of a woman her reply was a double one.

As a matter of fact, there are several women ministers and vice-ministers in the Central People's Government—Li Teh-chuan, the minister of public health, and Ho Hsiang-nan, in charge of overseas affairs. At least 230 or so women occupy major posts in the government as a whole. As for her own job: "Especially when such a responsibility is shouldered by a woman, it must be done firmly," she smiled.

---

* Ever since then, she has been known as one of the "Seven Gentlemen," a group composed of herself and six prominent men having all been arrested together for advocating resistance to Japan.

JOSEPH STAROBIN, an American newspaperman, has spent the past few months in China, covering the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference and travelling around the country.

But it just isn't true, she continued, that people are arrested at random, that all former Kuomintangers are jailed, that businessmen are kidnapped or that mass trials and lawless executions take place just like that. Those are the fictions of *Time* magazine, nothing more.

In actual fact, personal liberty is the rule in China. There is no censorship of mail, no personal search without warrant, and the Public Security Bureau can only investigate on the basis of serious evidence. People come to trial only for crimes that are amply proven in a system of lawful courts, now existing in almost all the 2,176 *hsien*, or counties of China.

"We do not arrest people without ample evidence," she said. The instigators of counter-revolutionary crimes are treated most severely, if the evidence requires it; those who have been forced to take part in crime against their will are re-educated. The rule is always leniency and often commutation of sentence for those who by their deeds show they have reformed.

She outlined five types of criminals against whom the justice of China is directed. The first are secret agents of the old order who actively organize and carry out such crimes as murder; there are cases of Kuomintang gangsters who had personally murdered no less than 1,300 workers.

The second are the chiefs of bandit gangs, who even after the liberation roamed the outlying areas of the country, preying on villages and on commerce. The third are active organizers of counter-revolutionary acts; the fourth are the despots of the villages, usually landlords, who carried out specific crimes in the past, the nature of which can be proven by the concrete testimony of the people who suffered from them.

The fifth are the gangsters who prey on the

superstitious or religious beliefs of the people, such as monks who perpetrate rape in the name of healing or overcoming sterility.

Shih Liang gave an example from Hsuchow which she herself had investigated. It was the case of an old woman whom a landlord had persecuted viciously; he had killed her son, kidnapped her daughter-in-law, and cut off her own arm.

For 15 years, this old woman had waited for justice, but she had buried and preserved the arm. After the liberation, the landlord was accused of the crimes. He denied them, but after the indictment he attempted to murder the plaintiff. Minister Shih Liang was present when the old woman presented the arm to an astonished and outraged village court.

I THOUGHT often of Shih Liang's remarks during a visit to a court for petty disputes, located in the corner building of a main street in Nanking. It is totally unlike the kind of courts to which we are accustomed. It consists of a committee of citizens elected by the people of the neighborhood; there are a thousand such committees in the city.

When a case comes before one of the 50 to 60 judges in Nanking, he decides whether to try it formally or to have the people's committees settle it.

We came in late one afternoon when such a committee was dealing with the case of a local merchant who had rented an apartment from a woman neighbor, and in turn had rented a room to a subtenant, an elderly zinc worker.

The merchant, a young man of 23 who did his business in the apartment, had pocketed the rent from the sub-lessee and had refused to pay his own rent on the grounds that the business had gone badly.

It was a simple story. But the Chinese approach to it was unlike anything I had ever seen. There was no judge and there were no lawyers. The young man sat in the semicircle of his neighbors and pouted and turned his back on the plaintiff, a woman of 37. He insisted he could not pay up the back rent, and moreover he needed the apartment if he were to continue business and make a living.

The woman insisted that he get out and pay up the back sum. Each neighbor had a word to say, while the chairman took careful notes. The young man had to reform, said one old lady, and she made a proposal for settlement; another chimed in that this would not work and made a counter-suggestion. The argument went on for a solid hour.

At one point, the apartment owner made a bargaining move; he could stay in that apartment provided she could have one room back. And what's more, he must pay one-third of the back rent each month in addition to the current sum; the sub-lessee would henceforth pay directly to her.

The young man was almost in tears. He couldn't tolerate that. Paying up arrears would take one-third of his income. Impossible. His children would starve.

It took another round of discussion before the final agreement. The merchant kept the whole apartment. After a lump sum within three weeks, the balance of the arrears would be spread over 15 months. The elderly zinc worker would from now on pay directly to the landlord. The committee rose, greatly satisfied with its work.

THE Central People's Court in Peking deals with more serious matters, but in a similar way. The day we went there, half a dozen couples had come to decide—reconciliation or divorce. Since the marriage law, many couples who had been married against their will have been considering separations. The function of the court is to mediate. The couples usually accept the advice of the court, though they may appeal.

But the court consists of more than the judge: it includes the spectators who are usually the friends and relatives of the couples, and members of the court staff, plus Women's Federation representatives.

This whole group breaks into smaller circles, and usually there are two couples in each one. Couple A starts talking about its problems. The wife speaks, the husband argues, questions are asked. And all this time Couple B is either listening or taking part in the discussion of Couple A's problems.

The impact of this method is remarkable. There are no lawyers nor court fees; the hostilities tend to be resolved and washed away in argument and discussion. Each couple, after becoming involved in the problems of the other, begins to look more objectively on its own. The atmosphere is one of business-like friendliness.

The entire system is not based on the idea of anyone making money, and the aspect of awe and oppression associated with courts in the capitalist world and in China's past, has disappeared.

The court is concerned with reaching solutions on the basis of justice. Crime is punished but the wrongdoer is rehabilitated into society as quickly as possible.

The Court Goes to the People

IN making preparations to set up district people's courts, the Shanghai city government sent mediation teams composed of judges and People's Court Workers on circuit, visiting factories, schools and residential districts to settle civil disputes related to problems of marriage, debts and housing.

The mediation team usually established itself in any convenient public place which served as a provisional court or hall of justice. Representatives of the district people's government, women's federation, trade union councils and law students were invited to sit in and help in dealing with the cases while the general public also was present.

As a result of public hearing of the cases and the exposition of the law by the circuit judges, many misunderstandings regarding government law and decrees were ironed out.

People who had attempted to "battle" in court either voluntarily sought a peaceful settlement or withdrew their accusations after understanding the policy of mediation and a conciliatory settlement in civil cases.

Private Business in China

Harold Fletcher

ONE of the many surprises for members of the United States delegation was the discovery that private enterprise is flourishing in China. For the first time in many years, business conditions are favorable and good profits are being made by most industries and business establishments. The past year has, in fact, been one of the most prosperous in China's history and 1953 is expected to chalk up new records in production, trade and profits. After years of stagnation and near collapse, privately-owned industry, particularly light industry, is not only back on its feet, but undergoing a remarkable expansion. Many new enterprises have come into existence since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949 as a result of the good economic conditions prevailing throughout China.

All these facts became evident to our delegation as we visited one big Chinese city after another—Nanking, Shanghai, Hangchow, Tientsin, and the national capital Peking—and saw with our own eyes the amazing amount of activity being manifested by private enterprise in its many varied forms.

In each of these cities we saw the great variety of products being produced by small and large-scale private enterprise. Many of these products were formerly imported and had never been produced in China's shops and factories before. Every small workshop, every cotton, woolen or silk factory, paper and jute mill, foundry, and machine shop seemed to be working at full capacity to fulfill new orders.

We were frankly amazed at the crowds of people in privately-owned department and other stores, most of which appeared to be serving plenty of interested customers, despite competition from state-owned stores of the same kind in the vicinity. With around 75 percent of China's trade capital still in private hands, it seemed clear to us that the retail section of business was doing quite well for itself.

Most impressive for us was the degree of activity in the private sectors of industry, particularly in light industry where most privately-owned factories have not only been rehabilitated and re-equipped, but have in many instances been expanded to meet the rising demand for both industrial and consumer goods.

Mr. Chu Chi-sun, manager and principal owner of the Jen Li Woolen Mill at Tientsin, for example, told us that profits from his company, together with capital he had recently repatriated from abroad, has made it possible not only to expand the output of the mill which produces mainly wool cloth for industrial purposes, but also to set up an egg processing plant and a jute weaving factory.

Similar investment of private capital in new equipment and enterprises is taking place in many major Chinese cities. Total value of the output of private industrial enterprises has risen by 70 percent since 1949. While heavy industry is for the most part (80 percent) nationalized, having been confiscated from the Kuomintang clique at the time of liberation, the remaining 20 percent of heavy industry and 70 percent of light industry is in private hands. Both sectors of private industry are expected to expand rapidly during the coming years alongside the rapidly growing nationalized sector.

Contrary to what many of us had expected to find in China, most sections of the business community take an optimistic view of business prospects for the immediate future and (how many of our businessmen can say the same?) for the next decade or more, although all private enterprise is scheduled *eventually* to become public property when China transforms itself into a socialist society.

There are many sound reasons for the general spirit of optimism and confidence which prevails in Chinese business circles today.

Foremost is the fact that for the first time in many generations China has a clean, honest and efficient government. The nation has rid itself of the completely corrupt and bureaucratic Kuomintang dictatorship, whose highest officials, including Chiang Kai-shek himself, amassed huge fortunes by dipping into

---

HAROLD FLETCHER, a member of the US delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference is a young American economist. In this article he records his impressions of private enterprise in new China, gained during his two-months' visit to this country last fall.—Editor.

the public treasury, by speculation on the money and commodity market, and by the extortion of tribute from and the open pillaging of private industry.

Through its opposition to even the mildest reforms in the out-moded system of land tenure, the Kuomintang kept the Chinese peasantry, constituting 80 percent of the population, in

Many machine tools which in the past could not be made in China are now being turned out in increasing numbers. Below: A new workshop equipped with China-made machine tools.

★

★

a constant state of misery and poverty. This meant the perpetuation of a very low level of purchasing power and consequently a restricted market for the sale of industrial and consumer products.

At the same time, through its servility to the foreign powers (and after 1945 its open dependence upon the Truman administration), the Kuomintang continually placed local business at the mercy of ruthless foreign competition, which in the form of dumping operations flooded the market with cheap surplus goods. Further, the disastrous inflation brought on by the Kuomintang's civil war policies ruined many Chinese firms and pushed others to the brink of financial disaster.

It is no wonder, therefore, that businessmen in China, with the exception of the heads of foreign firms and their handful of Chinese collaborators (compradores), heaved a sigh of relief to see the Kuomintang go. On the other hand, it is quite true that many businessmen were skeptical and even fearful as to the attitude the people's government would take towards private enterprise. These fears have almost entirely disappeared in recent years as prosperity has replaced economic stagnation and chaos and since it has become abundantly clear that private enterprise has a positive role to play in the period of new democracy.

The people's government has balanced the national budget, no small feat considering the sorry state of public finance at the time of liberation; it has eliminated inflation and stabilized prices, and it has instituted a rational system of taxation which serves as a stimulus rather than a restraint to private enterprise. When necessary, the government has stepped in to aid private enterprise directly through loans at low interest rates. It has also guaranteed private industry steady supply of basic raw materials such as coal, iron, jute, cotton and wool. Many private industries are working on government contracts, processing and supplying industrial and consumer commodities to state-owned establishments.

Another important factor making for confidence in the Chinese business community has been the constantly rising purchasing power of the Chinese people since 1949. This is a direct result of the great land reform which is now nearly completed and in which more than 400,000,000 peasants acquired sufficient land to enable them not only to subsist, but to produce enough surplus with which to buy greater quantities of consumer goods. Similarly the rising real wages of industrial workers has

US and Canadian peace delegates visit Shanghai's privately-owned Sung Sing No. 9 Cotton Mill during their post-conference tour of the country.

provided new customers for the products of private enterprise.

Almost every other peasant we encountered in the villages we visited was wearing new or recently purchased clothing. Coal miners told us their work clothes are better today than the clothes they formerly set aside for weddings and holidays. In the homes of peasants and in the apartments of workers we noticed many objects which were rarely found in such households in the old days: flashlights, radios, new kitchenware, furniture, thermos bottles, extra bedding.

Official government statistics bear out our observations. Sales of cotton yarn in 1951, for example, were 32 percent above 1950 and estimated sales for 1952 were expected to be another 30 percent above 1951, or 59 percent higher than in the peak year under the Kuomintang.

Coupled with the rising purchasing power has been a spectacular rise in output and productivity, factors which a number of plant owners and managers pointed to with considerable satisfaction. Plant manager Tsang of the big Sung Sing Textile Mill in Shanghai, which has over 6,000 workers and is one of eight owned by the Yung brothers, told us that output and productivity had never before reached such high levels.

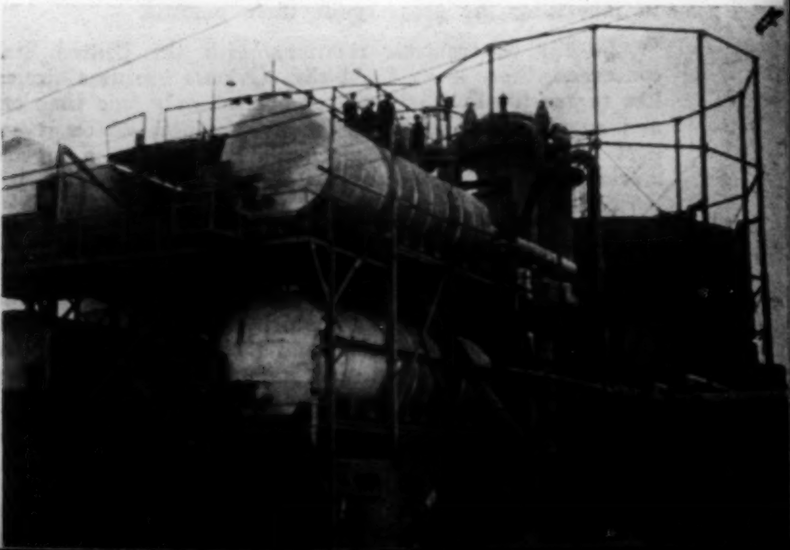
Since 1949, overall plant output (cotton thread and cotton cloth) had increased by 74.4 percent. The output of cotton cloth is up 128 percent over pre-liberation.

Much of this increase in output Mr. Tsang attributes to the enthusiasm of the workers in the plant, all of whom are members of the trade union local and are protected by the new labor insurance law. Numerous rationalization proposals and innovations put forward by the workers have been adopted by the plant management, Mr. Tsang told us. The company, which in 1949 was badly in debt; unable to meet its payroll and short of working capital, is now operating at a profit and finding a market for all of its products.

The existence, not to mention the flourishing of private enterprise under a government in which the Communist Party plays a leading role may startle many Americans who have been taught that in such a situation business would be classified as public enemy number one. Actually private enterprise has been given, for the first time in its history in China, a status and a position of real importance. The people's government, in which it is represented, is counting upon the business community to help in the plan to industrialize the country in a comparatively short period of time.

Now that all obstacles to full scale industrialization of the country have been removed, the people's government plans to

China's chemical industry is now producing at record levels. Below: A sulphuric acid plant.



transform the country from a predominantly agricultural to an industrial economy in a decade. To accomplish this, the cooperation of not only the liberated peasants and workers, but also that of small and large-scale private enterprises is necessary. The government will have its hands full directing the rapid development of heavy industry, and it has indicated that there is and will be plenty of room for private enterprise to expand in light industry and in commerce.

The evidence which our delegation saw indicates that the response of private enterprise to the government's plan for economic development has been an enthusiastic one. Businessmen throughout China take great pride, along with the rest of the people, in the fact that their country is at last free and independent. For the first time they see a future for themselves that is unclouded by threats of foreign domination, corruption and civil war. They have a guaranteed future within the framework of the overall plan to industrialize China.

True, the new democracy, as the present system of government and society is called in China, is a transitional step on the road to socialism. But it is a transitional step which Chairman Mao Tse-tung has stated may last a considerable time.

The businessmen we talked to seemed reconciled to the fact that their plants would eventually become public property. Some of them, like Mr. Chu Chi-sun, told us quite frankly that they expected to continue as managers of their former factories or of other socialized enterprises. Meantime, their children are growing up to become technicians and engineers, professors and government officials in the new society and showing little interest in inheriting the property of their parents.

So far as economic relations with the United States are concerned, there is no doubt that Chinese business circles would like to see the lines of trade re-opened, only this time on a fair and equal basis. China has many products which it could export to the United States. Similarly there is a big potential market in China for goods produced in our own country.

But the re-opening of normal trade relations, which could be of great profit to both countries, depends first and foremost upon the willingness of our own government to recognize that the new China is here to stay and that no power on earth can restore the old system under which a few foreign interests and a handful of Chinese officials and their henchmen profited while China remained backward and its people lived in misery.

New Attitude of Postal Workers

Service to the People

C. R. Chi

WHEN I began to work in the Post Office, 16 years ago, I was horrified at the counter, before which a throng of customers jostled one another, each trying to be first. The counter clerks, with cold and indifferent manner, showed their evident hostility toward their customers, and I wondered if postal employees were not different from ordinary men.

Through the years, I became accustomed to the disorderly scene and the contempt of the clerks, and was hardly surprised when physical violence broke out sometimes between clerks and customers. I had also to accustom myself to the extremely heavy work, the long hours, the lack of recreation, and the gross inequalities between higher and lower orders of postal workers. The latter, especially postmen, clerks and laborers, were particularly exploited; and the inspectors were cruel petty despots, punishing with severity the least deviation from punctuality.

Before liberation, the telegraph office was similar to the Post Office. Its workers were also poorly paid, and the ordinary telegram service was so slow, and there were so many regulations concerning the use of the telephone or the sending of telegrams that the common people thought the whole enterprise was intended solely for the use of the government, army and speculators.

LIBERATION has brought many changes in these public services. The postal and telecommunication facilities have been brought together, and the workers have greatly raised the quality of the service.

The quarrels which used to be prevalent between clerks and customers have disappeared, as has the sullenness and disdain.

Although before liberation many eulogies were printed of the "rapid progress" of the postal service, we postal workers have now found, after our study courses, that we must revise our conception of such "progress" and "achievements." Instead of serving the ordinary people, the Post Office formerly prided itself upon its service to the upper class. The mobile postal service, parcel post service, savings and remittance service, and so on, were of chief benefit to the privileged; and similarly with the telegraph and telephone services. It was, for example, extremely difficult to get a telephone installed before liberation, since the possession of a telephone meant easy dealing on the black market, and the downtown exchanges were overloaded with speculators' lines.

The attitude of postal workers to their jobs has also changed greatly. Formerly, the worker thought of his job merely as the "rice bowl" — the guarantee of employment and salary. Now the workers think in terms of service to the people, reflected by increased care and efficiency.

Among the 1,337 model workers in the two services is a girl long distance operator in Tientsin, who can manage five conversations at the same

ATTENTION ALL PASSENGERS! . . .

THE waiting room of the Mukden railway station was crowded, and the long line of passengers for Harbin was just beginning to move through the gates when an old man, who had come to Mukden to visit his son, on leave from Korea, discovered that he had lost both his ticket and his money, more than Y200,000.

He got out of line and began an anxious search, helped by several station clerks and passengers. At length one of the clerks told the old man that he would enquire in the office if they would permit him to ride free.

Meanwhile word got around to the other passengers, who began to take up a collection for the old man. "He's the father of one of our Volunteers," they said, "but even if he weren't we ought to help him. Anyway, it isn't right that he should ride free."

In a short time more than Y300,000 was collected, and the clerk was about to hand it to the much moved old man, when the loudspeaker came to raucous life. "Attention all passengers!" it roared. "Wang Teh-hsin, a worker, has just found a ticket and some money in the waiting room. Will the owner please go to the office at once!" Then came words of praise for Wang Teh-hsin.

time and has cut average connection time from 70 to six seconds. An advanced team in the Tientsin Telecommunication Office has made rationalization proposals which have saved nearly Y9,000,000,000.

THERE are countless examples of the new attitude of the workers to their jobs. A telegraph worker copied more than 1,000,000 words in telegrams in 19 months without a mistake; a postal sorter handled 2,500,000 letters in a year without error. In Peking, installation of a phone now takes only eight hours, as compared with the former seven days.

The old man excitedly rushed off, and returned with his property five minutes before train time. The clerk wanted to give him the money that had been collected, but he refused to take it. "I appreciate it very much," he said, "but how can I take it now?"

But the clerk said it would be a difficult task to return it to the donors. "You're the father of a Volunteer," he said, "and you can consider it as a gift. Nobody else has a right to it!"

Nevertheless, the old man wouldn't take it, and as he went off to get his train, he called out, "Please donate it to the Volunteers! But don't use my name; say it's from a group of passengers. . ."

Postal and telegraph workers from every corner of the country report improved working methods, inventions, and discoveries almost daily.

Former administration and engineering personnel, who looked down upon the workers, have now changed their attitude, as a great many valuable suggestions have come from the rank and file.

Higher efficiency means that the work is done better at less cost, while at the same time pay has been increased and a labor insurance system has been put into effect. The majority of postal and telecommunication workers have had raises in pay in the past two years.

These two services, now combined in one efficient enterprise, have made remarkable progress during the few years since liberation, and with the active interest of the workers in improving services, the rate of progress constantly increases. Workers of all grades are determined to make the postal and telegraph system the most efficient possible, to best serve the needs of the people and the demands of the forthcoming large-scale national construction plan.

KOREAN STUDENTS

K. J. WEI

ONE bright Sunday afternoon as I was returning from the village market place I met one of my Korean friends, a girl student in the local middle school. There was an ax tied to her waist, and she carried a five-foot log on her head that must have weighed 50 pounds. Having pictured her as a vivacious girl, singing, dancing and studying, this sight so surprised me that I gaped at her. Noticing my astonishment, she put down her load, bowed and gave me a friendly smile.

Greeting her in the Korean manner, I said, "You are working too hard."

"No, no," she insisted, "it is you volunteers who are working too hard for us."

We frequently heard such expressions of concern and warm regard from the Korean people, but these words, spoken by a girl of 16, were particularly touching. I asked her if she was taking the wood home.

"No," she smiled, "to school." Her answer explained the reason for the groups of school children I had seen passing my house with axes in their hands, and gave me a glimpse of their difficult life.

Owing to the war, which has drawn the greater part of Korea's youth into active service, school staffs have been reduced to as little as one-third of their original number. This has not meant a lessening of educational work; on the contrary, while the remaining teachers have had to assume leadership in many social activities, and their responsibilities have increased, they have not neglected their educational duties.

The students too, in addition to their regular studies, have many duties after school hours. They are not only students, but also active participants in farm production.

The way these youths under 20 work on the hills, in the fields, and in school is really amazing. The neat piles of wood in the school compound, the huge stacks of hay and grain, the trees that line the roads are a testimony to their hard work, their contribution

---

K. J. WEI is a member of the Chinese People's Volunteers who has spent the past year in Korea, serving in several different parts of the country.

---

to the defense of their country.

When one looks at the deep trenches extending from the very thresholds of the schools, almost completely encircling a large hill, and at the air-raid shelters that are cut deep into the hill, one's amazement deepens. How can these youngsters find the time and energy to build such works, in addition to their effort in production and their studies? Watching them, no one can doubt their determination to aid their country.

A local school, which I often visited, had 116 students, including 38 girls. Together with six teachers, these 116 students administer and carry on the school.

Before the war, adequate funds were available for the schools, including the hiring of janitors and other staff and the purchase of fuel for the winter. Now, however, funds for such purposes are given only to colleges and technical schools, while the high schools, outside the teaching staff, are on a self-maintenance basis. While their predecessors enjoyed the comfort of a blazing fire in the classrooms during winter as a matter of course, today's students chop and stack the firewood themselves.

The people invariably look to the students for the entertainment which is part of the program of large meetings. The youngsters never fail to satisfy the audience with their dancing and singing, for which the Koreans are justly famous.

During spring sowing, the students were a strong reserve force on the production front.

Korean school girl thanking a group of Chinese Volunteers who turned over to a school all supplies saved by their unit during an economy campaign.

Every day I saw groups of them swinging along in double file on their way to the fields.

They rushed to where they were most needed, often spending several days at a stretch in the fields. Many times I have seen them returning, triumphant and radiant from the sense of accomplishment. Back at school, they studied harder to make up for lost time and added Sunday to their time-table.

At harvest time, they went out to help reap the grain with the same high spirits; and I have often seen them dance, sing and cut capers when the long day's work was done.

When the US threatened to bomb all the cities, the students set to work, using every spare hour, to dig trenches and air-raid shelters; and well in advance of winter, they had 12 neat piles of firewood stacked in the compound, totalling about 24 cubic meters.

But even these efforts paled beside their levelling of a hill to prepare for the construction of a hospital. One morning, we were surprised to find a large group of students gathered around our quarters. They were carrying picks and shovels, and nobody knew what they had come for until an interpreter informed us that they were going to level the hill.

Gazing at the 20-foot mound, and then at the group of 16 and 17-year-olds, we thought they were joking, and some of us laughed aloud. It seemed such a puny force to overthrow a hill. But their faces showed perfect confidence; they had come to level the hill, and they knew they would.

Their six teachers were also with them. Dividing into two groups, they attacked the hill from two sides, shovels and picks striking energetically at the earth. Presently a third group was formed to cart away the loose earth and dump it into a nearby hollow.

After an hour, the younger ones had a recess, while their older comrades continued to work with unflagging energy; and they sang, their youthful voices filling the valley with gaiety and cheerfulness. By evening, almost half the hill had disappeared, and on the third day it had entirely vanished, unable to resist the determination of a youthful will. A few months later, a new building stood where the hill had been.

Possibly some might wonder whether these students are not "forced" to work so hard. The best answer to this was given by my little friend, the girl student. "We are too young to go to the front and fight for our country," she said with a smile, "but we can work to help relieve her burdens."

General Evans Carlson:

PEOPLE'S SOLDIER

Rewi Alley

WHILE coming back to Canton city, from a trip to Sumchun, where we had been farewelling some of the peace delegates to the recent Asian and Pacific Peace Conference, someone handed me a newspaper. It was then that I read of the election of General Eisenhower to the post of President of the United States.

I looked out of the window at the south Kwangtung countryside, at the ruins of the Second World War, now being covered with vegetation, and thought of another American soldier who in the early days of the anti-Japanese war had gone over this country with me. Of how Evans Carlson and I had talked so long on the sampan that slipped at nights up the canals through the Japanese lines, continuing our talks through wartime Kiangsi, Fukien, up into Chekiang, and then across to the New Fourth Army's area in South Anhwei.

Carlson had had an unusual career. Enlisting in the United States Army at the age of 16, he worked his way up from the ranks, serving as a combat officer in World War I and ending up on the staff of General Pershing. Despite this personal success, he was dissatisfied with army life and resigned his commission after the war. However, two years later he enlisted in the US Marine Corps and, again starting in at the bottom, gradually rose through the ranks.

It was while he was in war-torn China, particularly after his visit to the Liberated Areas, that ideas seemed to take form in his mind as he more and more fully realized the menace of Japanese imperialism, of how the Kuomintang was just waiting for the chance to work in with it, and how gallant a struggle was being put up by the real forces for resistance. He had thought he was through with the armed services for ever, refusing even a pension for his years of duty. Now he began to realize that America must fight in this war. That he would have to go back to fight.

Then as we turned back down from looking at Gung Ho cooperatives in South Anhwei, to Kiangsi—Kian, Taiho, and then to Suichuan, nearby to the Chin Kan Shan of Chinese Red Army history—he more and more thought over his time with the Eighth Route Army in the Northwest, and more and more felt that any army to succeed, must be a people's army, understanding what it was trying to do, democratic in its organization, and tied closely with the hopes and security of the common people from which it had sprung.

In Suichuan, we could not get a bus to Kanchow, so set out to walk the distance, Carlson with his long legs, striding ahead, myself a goodly way behind, because of my much shorter ones, and the lad who was with us and the baggage, coming on behind him again. As I would catch up with Carlson, sitting on a bridge smoking his pipe, he would start talking of the tragedies we saw in KMT China, the KMT rottenness—really a part of the Japanese side, he would say,—the Eighth Route Army organization, Agnes Smedley's ideas on the things that moved people, and the need for organizing against Japan.

Later we went on through Kwangsi, Kweichow, and Szechuen on various conveyances that seemed to break down at all the most unlikely places, as was the habit with Kuomintang transport in that period, and it became more and more plain to Carlson what line of action he should take. He would go back to America. He would tell the people of what was happening in China. That Imperial Japan was a menace to people everywhere. That there must be people's organization to meet this threat.

He had a simple, direct approach. When he had once made up his mind what he should do, then nothing would stop him from attempting to do it. The more he saw of the way the Chinese people could work together, could carry on in spite of their traitor KMT government, the more he was filled with undisguised admiration for them. He loved simple living and straight acting, and appreciated the quality in people he met, in a way that few with whom I have travelled have been able to do.

The harder the road, the more difficulties to get over, the better he was pleased. He would never admit that he was even approaching middle age, feeling that he could do more, endure more, than at any time in his life.

Then from Chungking, he left on his great crusade. He looked for his friends, and found a job in training marines. The war that he knew would soon touch America, came, and his chance came with it. He led in November 1942, ten years ago this month, the first American people's force against the Japanese. He had picked this force, he had indoctrinated it, they knew what they were doing, and why. He organized it on the lines he had learned in the Eighth Route Army, and he called it "Gung Ho Raiders."

It was successful. It was too successful. The militarists who fought not for the people, but to protect the "interests" of their "backers" were scared. The democratic nature of this people's force was too "revolutionary" for their tastes. The force was broken up. Victories won so easily would hardly bring in the profits needed. The war was going to be fought on the most expensive, most old fashioned principles possible. A few years' longer winning it did not matter. The big thing was to preserve the American way of making money, and not to introduce any new ideas which might later prove "dangerous."

Carlson must have felt, though, that he had in a certain measure succeeded, when at the Madison Square Garden meeting on December 2, 1945, he was received with the applause of some 22,000 people, shouting "Gung Ho, Gung Ho," and listening while he talked, as we today talk in peace conferences of the need for "harmonizing human relations and the satisfying of human needs among all the peoples of the earth."

In his speeches before this time, he had shown clearly how his mind was running—to the writers in California in October, 1943, he had said, "There is need for us to refresh our memories on the principles which comprise democracy. Especially is there need for us to weigh our own actions against these principles . . . greed and prejudice; intolerance and government by privilege—these are the precepts of the Fascists whom we fight . . . in due time I came to have a better understanding of and a deep respect for, the basic decency, the honesty, and the quality of human beings, especially humans constrained to work for their livelihood."

Carlson began to be a name on the tongues of many men. He was spoken of as a candidate for high office. Then came sickness, and his confinement to the hospital. In a summing up of his ideas about his America of that time he wrote in a letter to his friend, Agnes Smedley:

> "My meager experience with politics and politicians has convinced me of several things with regard to this country.
>
> 1. There is need for a political party which will truly represent the people, and which will have machinery which will permit the people to select individuals of their own choice for public office. Both existing major parties have too many self-seeking racketeers, who don't give two cents about the people.
> 2. There are too many racketeers among the leaders of organized labor. The members of labor unions will never get more than the cow's hind tit, until they organize and clean house in a democratic manner, and put in leaders who will work in their interests. The only hope for progress in America is a strong, united labor movement. The bar to such a movement is the presence in the ranks of labor of many leaders, who place their own selfish interests ahead of the welfare of the people; many of these leaders stand in the way of the education of union members, which would give them the knowledge and understanding of democratic objectives and processes.
>
> "Well, I'm just beefing, Agnes, I burn up when I see people stupidly working against their own interests. I burn up, too, when I think of all the good guys who went out and got killed to protect the rights of a handful of s.o.b's to make more money for themselves."

These were words said well, and with understanding, as true today as they were then.

And so one leaves the memory of this man, who so truly represented the America of Jefferson and Lincoln, a man about whom in the future, more will be written, whose relatively short life was so packed with change, incident and learning, a study of which, one might suggest, would be profitable for his fellow officer, the new President of the United States. Then too, may one prophesy, it may well be that the anniversary of the second decade since Guadalcanal will receive more notice than has the first, obliterated as it has been by the sound of mass bombing over Korea.

Medicines and Surgical Instruments now

MADE IN CHINA

THE recent exhibition of surgical instruments and medicines held in Shanghai gave an impetus to China's rapidly expanding health program and to the promotion of domestic trade. Housed in the big gymnasium of the Shanghai Sports Association, the exhibition was the first of its kind held in the city since liberation, and was sponsored jointly by seven local craft guilds including the pharmaceutical industry, industry of surgical instruments, industry of chemical materials and international trade. Lasting 16 days, it attracted more than 15,000 people and over Y26,000,000,000 worth of business was done.

Almost every kind of instrument was shown, from X-Ray apparatus to simple forceps. The exhibition clearly demonstrated the ineffectiveness of the US-imposed blockade on the one hand, and on the other the skill and inventiveness of China's workers and technicians.

Going through the display of hundreds of instruments made in China, the visitor could see the notice "manufactured after liberation," on the majority of the articles. Prominent among the exhibits were, to name a few, new X-Ray machines, short-wave diathermy apparatus, infant incubators, autoclaves, spirometers (lung capacity gauges) and sphygmomanometers (blood pressure gauges). The manufacture of these and other instruments, considered impossible in the old days, has been successfully undertaken in three short years.

Other important exhibits included a 25-gallon distilling apparatus, an adjustable operating table, and a pill making machine, which can turn out from 65 to 140 pounds of pills an hour, depending upon the size of the pill.

Previously, only approximately 40 percent of the surgical instruments used in China were produced in this country, while today the percentage has risen to 90.

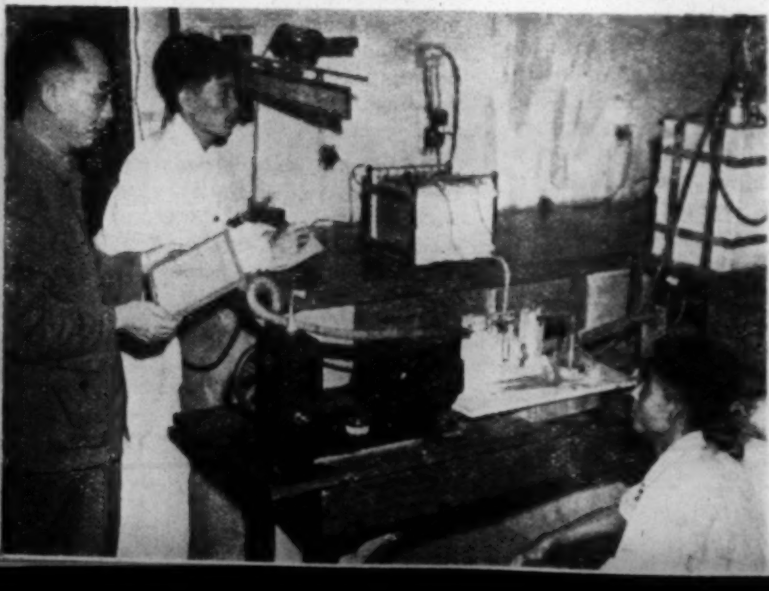
As China is fast becoming health-conscious, there is a constantly increasing demand for medicines and instruments. The workers have made great efforts to increase production, and rapid progress has been made in this direction since 1949. Taking the index of production in 1949 as 100, the index in 1951 for sterilizers was 3,800; for forceps, 3,800; for sphygmomanometers, 2,000; for balances, 1,700; and for probes, 1,700.

One map showed the rapidly widening market for the instruments produced in Shanghai. While formerly the major part was sold only in neighboring provinces, at present Shanghai-made instruments and apparatus are found in remote Inner Mongolia, Sinkiang and Tibet, where only a few years ago modern medical facilities were not available to the people.

A large part of the exhibition was devoted to the display of thousands of kinds of medicines produced in China. Many important medicines, not made here before liberation, are now being turned out and measure up to international standards of quality. These include penicillin, chloromycetin, streptomycin, sulfathiazol and PAS.

At present, efforts are being made to manufacture these and other pharmaceutical preparations in quantities sufficient for the entire country's needs. A penicillin factory, for instance, is being built in Shanghai.

Union of theory and practice. Tsinghua University Professor Yu Jui-huang and his assistants have succeeded in making X-ray tubes from domestic materials.



Government aid, combined with the workers' enthusiasm, has been an important factor in the successful manufacture of these medicines. As early as 1946 the Shanghai Pharmaceutical Appliance Company began research on the problems of penicillin manufacture. However, work was hampered by the flood of US-made penicillin, and the Kuomintang government refused to assist the company in any way.

Soon after liberation, however, the government helped to establish a penicillin laboratory, and after a series of experiments, the company began producing penicillin in October 1951.

Similarly, before liberation very few factories produced PAS, a remedy for tuberculosis, because of the competition of the US product. Output was only about 100 kilograms a year. At present Shanghai produces 450 kilograms a year.

A few figures show the quick growth of Shanghai's pharmaceutical industry within the past three years. Before liberation, there were in the city 109 factories with a total of 4,249 workers. By the end of September 1952 the number of factories had increased to 224, employing 8,106 workers. Production outstripped the growth of factories and workers; taking the 1950 index as 100, it rose to 300 in 1951 and to 379 in 1952.

The workers have found many ways to save materials in the manufacture of medicines and instruments. Aluminum, for example, has replaced bronze in the making of sphygmomanometers, saving more than two tons of bronze a year in this single item alone.

To take a more important example, corn pulp was formerly used for penicillin culture, according to American practice. But, as corn was costly and not easily obtainable, the workers found that cotton seed cakes were equally efficient. This resulted in an 85 percent cut in production costs.

Shanghai's pharmaceutical chemical industry has also made great strides, with six new factories since liberation. During the past three years the chemicals produced by these factories have meant a saving of more than US $2,000,000 in foreign exchange. Some of their products were sent to industrial exhibitions in Bulgaria and Germany.

In certain medicinal materials, China has an exportable surplus. The chief export items at present are *tang kuei (angelica polumorpha)*, *chi ken (platycodon grandiflorum)*, and rhubarb.

— *YANG LI-HSIN*

A Place for Workers

FOR centuries Hangchow and its beautiful West Lake and the surrounding temple-dotted hills have been famous as a place of beauty in China. In recent years it became the near-exclusive pleasure preserve of Kuomintang officials, wealthy compradores and foreign taipans. Since liberation, however, it is being enjoyed by all the people.

Workers and students from Shanghai come down by train on Saturday afternoons for the weekend, four hours away from that city of more than 5,000,000. In addition to all its scenic glories, places formerly barred to the public have become workers' resorts and rest homes and their splendid grounds open to all.

On the shore of the magnificent West Lake is a newly opened resort for the country's railway workers. Here in the midst of the majestic hills which enclose Hangchow on three sides, railroad men and women are now spending their vacations.

The background of this resort is the story of old and new China. Built as the private villa of a top Ching (Manchu) Dynasty official in the 17th century, it was handed down to the family descendents who lived here in great luxury.

In the numerous buildings covering the large grounds were housed precious collections of paintings, porcelain, jade, carved furniture and all the treasures a rich official could lay hands on. The last occupant, a direct descendent of the founder and himself a Kuomintang official, ran off to Hongkong before liberation. Today the buildings and their antiques are being preserved and cared for while, at the same time, vacationing workers are able to enjoy and live in the midst of these splendid relics from China's past.

The fine green gardens and their lovely centuries-old trees and brooks along the lakeside are open to the visiting public.

In one large garden is the tomb of the founder of the residence and the

Workers' sanatorium at Hangchow's famous West Lake.

tombs of his 10 wives. In the dormitories set up in some of the buildings overlooking West Lake are clean, well-ventilated and sunlight-drenched big rooms with large and comfortable beds and new bright-colored quilts, mosquito nets, writing desks and a radio amplifying system.

Rail workers from all over China come here. I talked with Chang Ming, a 45-year-old worker in the administrative section of the Tsinan station in Shantung province, who had two more weeks of his one month vacation to spend. This was the first time he had had a vacation in more than 20 years as a rail worker. Expenses were taken care of by his union, and to Chang Ming the best part of it all was that this vacation he had dreamed of for so long could be spent in Hangchow on the West Lake, a place he had always wanted to visit but never could.

— *J. F. S.*

View of Chientang River from workers' sanatorium.

Religion in China Today

Talitha Gerlach

"OUR government is sincerely implementing the principle set forth in the Common Program, Article 5—the Magna Carta of the People's Republic of China adopted September 29, 1949, which provides:

> "The people of the People's Republic of China shall have freedom of thought, speech, publication, assembly, association, correspondence, person, domicile, *religious belief*, and freedom of holding processions and demonstrations."

"In fact, our government encourages the freedom of religious practices for Buddhists, Mohammedans, Christians—both Protestant and Catholic—in China today."

"Our churches are now self-supporting; in fact some enjoyed the healthy state of having a balance in the treasury at the end of last year."

These statements are the testimony of internationally known religious leaders, as well as rank and file church members interviewed in Peking and other parts of China by the delegates to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions. Every opportunity was offered to the delegates of the Peace Conference to meet with Chinese religious leaders, to visit places of worship, to participate in church services, to meet and talk informally with church members. Several countries at the Peace Conference had representatives in their delegations from the ordained clergy, former missionaries and active church members, for example Australia, Canada, China, Ceylon and notably Indonesia with nine Christian delegates.

Chinese Protestants and Catholics, themselves members of the Chinese delegation to the Peace Conference, as well as outstanding Christian pastors, theologians, educators, YMCA and

---

TALITHA GERLACH, an American social worker with many years' residence in China, was 27 years with the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, U.S.A.

YWCA secretaries and Christian laymen discussed freely and frequently with interested delegates from abroad about the present status of the Christian churches in China. They were more than eager to answer questions concerning every phase of church life. Active leaders in the Christian Reform Movement (Protestant) described the aims and goals of this movement to achieve

1) self-government,
2) self support, and
3) self-propagation of their faith—

goals which missionaries had said they were working toward for decades but which had never been implemented with serious intent and thorough-going practice.

The Christian Reform Movement began on September 23, 1950, when 1,527 Christian leaders issued a joint statement—a declaration which now has been signed by 340,000 persons or nearly half of the 700,000 Protestants in China. Local and regional committees numbering 203 have been organized by the churches to carry out the aims of this movement.

Today the Protestant church under the leadership of the Christian Reform Movement is undertaking a serious re-examination of its past, especially its political assumptions and in so doing is discovering more fully the meaning of its Christian faith. This critical analysis takes on new significance as the church, along

Peking Moslems presenting a banner of congratulation to Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference.

all institutions and people in China, is seeking to free itself from the reactionary influences of the West and the feudalistic bondage of China's own past. Chinese Christians testify that the passage from Isaiah quoted by Jesus, ". . . he hath appointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised," is coming true in the life of ordinary men and women, particularly those formerly oppressed and exploited by the privileged classes. Christians affirm today that the people's government of China is a government dedicated to bringing "abundant life" to all people throughout the land.

This critical examination is also revealing the all too prevalent position of the Church in the past, of uncritically supporting the government in power, as well as endorsing the foreign policies of the so-called "sending countries," thus beclouding and distorting the message of Christianity.

Catholic and Protestant church leaders alike discussed freely the place of missionaries in China and the evaluation of their work. They accord due respect to those missionaries who came to China motivated by a sincere desire to preach the gospel and to serve the people. However, too often the good motives were confused with political naivety as indicated through the conversation a Christian educator had after liberation with a missionary with whom he had worked for years.

The Chinese educator stated honestly and earnestly, "I fervently love my country and wholeheartedly support the policies of my government with regard to Korea and other questions of foreign policy." Whereupon the missionary said, "If you take this position you are betraying Christianity and our missionary work has failed." "On the contrary," said the educator, "I still sincerely hold to the Christian faith which I accepted under your guidance. I am a sincere, staunch Christian." "But," said the missionary, "you are against the United States government." The Christian educator replied, "Your work is not to convert us to become Americans, but to preach the gospel." This simple story shows all too clearly the confused thinking of some missionaries and their inability to distinguish between the essence of Christian teaching and the policies of their own government.

Other instances were related in which missionaries not only discouraged, but bluntly forbade students in mission schools to take part in national anniversary celebrations, patriotic demonstrations, even health and sanitation campaigns, thus placing

Peace Conference delegates chatting during a recess. From left: Wu Yao-tsung, Chinese delegate and Protestant leader, Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew, head of Indian delegation, N. Dhammaratana, head of Ceylonese delegation and well-known Buddhist priest.

themselves against the people's government. All too frequently missionaries have failed to catch the new spirit of cooperation.

One missionary doctor in West China in charge of a mission hospital was asked after liberation to account for the medical supplies the hospital had received from ECA (American Economic Cooperation Administration). When he failed to produce any records of their disposition an investigation was made which revealed that he had sold some of the drugs privately. Upon being asked to relinquish his position as director of the hospital to a Chinese administrator, he flatly refused. Because of his uncooperative attitude and questionable ethical standards, he was not invited to continue his work in China and arrangements were made for his departure for home.

A Catholic university president told of the appeal which students and faculty sent to the government requesting an investigation of the past actions of the foreign priest who supervised the institution. He, the priest, had openly and repeatedly warned the students that to cooperate with the people's government was tantamount to selling their souls to perdition. Upon investigation it was found that he had earlier cooperated with the KMT regime in giving up a progressive student to the secret police and at the same time was reporting to his home government regarding the university and conditions in China. When faced with his own letters from the files, the priest wrote a complete confession, confirming the findings of the investigation. He was removed from office and requested to leave the country.

And through this whole experience of freeing Christianity in China from the pollutions and distortions of the past, Chinese Christians are rediscovering a new vitality and strength in their Christian faith. Well may it be said that Chinese Christians today are heading a movement for the renaissance and reformation of Christianity similar in significance to the movements led by John Hus, Martin Luther and John Wesley in the past centuries in Europe.

Christians in China today proudly express their loyalty to the people's government and declare themselves as patriotic citizens taking active part in building the new society, the new economic order and the new political system, the new democracy,

Ceylonese delegation to Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference pays a visit to Peking's famous Yung Ho Buddhist temple.

under which the life of China and of the Chinese people is being transformed today. Protestant, Catholic, Buddhist, Mohammedan leaders served in the People's Political Consultative Conference which drafted the Common Program, China's constitution in its present form. They also serve on provincial and municipal People's Political Consultative Councils. This they proudly state is their citizenship right and responsibility.

Accordingly, Christians have supported and cooperated in the government program for developing a unified educational system in China today, a system which has incorporated private educational institutions including the former mission-supported colleges, universities and middle schools. Likewise medical schools, hospitals, clinics, orphanages and other social welfare institutions, formerly mission supported and directed, are now cooperating in the national program for health, medical and welfare service under Chinese direction and financed completely by the Chinese themselves.

These institutions, far from sacrificing their former standards of work, are finding themselves challenged to set ever higher standards suited to the needs of the country and to serve the people on a broader, wider scale than ever before. Services are being extended and personnel trained in greater numbers with a new emphasis on "service to the people." This new and far-reaching concept of "service to all" is one of the most convincing evidences of the basic change which has taken place in China, a transformation recognized by the Christian Church as something that Christians have long professed as their goal for mankind but as yet have achieved so rarely.

Significant developments, too, are taking place in the field of theological education in the Protestant Christian Movement. Three theological schools in Peking continue to enlist more students than before liberation, offering training on three levels —university, senior middle school and junior middle school. Both young new students and older experienced religious workers are enrolling in these seminaries to improve their training and education for religious work.

Last fall 11 separate units in the East China Area, which formerly struggled and competed to maintain themselves, united to form the Union Theological Seminary in Nanking, pooling their resources in faculty and equipment, yet providing separate courses in the religious doctrines and creeds of the respective denominations which have united in this joint enterprise. The curriculum in these seminaries includes such courses as: The Bible in original versions, the Old and New Testaments, Christian Doctrine, the Philosophy of Religion, History of Religion, Comparative Religions, Sacred Music, Practical Problems of the Christian Reform Movement.

The YMCA and YWCA Movements are finding themselves drawn closer to the organized Christian Movement and are challenged also to re-examine their programs in the light of the new developments in China today. Both associations report much activity in literacy classes, vocational training classes, health and physical education, nurseries, cultural activities, lectures and discussions on topics of current interest. Greater emphasis than ever before is being placed on religious activities and religious study groups.

At Peking, a new bond of unity and fellowship was forged between the peace-loving peoples of the Asian and Pacific Regions. Religious people of all faiths—Buddhist, Mohammedan, Catholic and Protestant Christian—were united with peoples of different social and economic backgrounds, of different races, nationalities and political beliefs, in the common struggle to achieve peace in the world today. Most of the people assembled in Peking were, in missionary terminology, from "receiving countries," but sadly lacking were the representatives for peace from the churches of the "sending countries."

It must again be emphasized that the Chinese Christian leaders were eager and willing and ready to welcome Christians from abroad at the Peace Conference. But where were the representatives of the Christian forces in the United States of America? Unfortunately they were not present in Peking. Truly, the Christian churches in America failed utterly to take this opportunity to meet with their fellow Christians from China and other countries who came to Peking to discuss the paramount question of peace in the world today. They also failed thereby to discuss questions regarding the status of Christianity in China today with Chinese Christians themselves.

Chinese Christian leaders affirm that there is new vigor and new life springing up in the Christian Movement under Chinese leadership which is strengthening the religious life of the churches. Christian clergy as well as rank and file church members attest to the freedom of religion and the bright future which lies ahead for the Christian Movement in China. Well may the question be asked, "Does the Christian Church of the West have the humility of spirit, selflessness and open-mindedness to learn from their fellow Chinese Christians?"

Letter to a Former School-mate in New York . . .

Shanghai

Dear Ruthie,

I was glad to hear of all your doings in the old school. I graduated from the school I wrote you about last time and entered a different one. There were a lot of new students, so we all felt strange for the first few days.

This school used to be called McTyeire, built by foreigners to give Chinese girls, mostly daughters of rich parents, a foreign-style education. But last June, McTyeire and St. Mary's Hall for Girls were combined into the Shanghai Municipal Third Girls' Middle School. (Quite a mouthful in English!) Most of the girls in my class, which you would call the first year of senior high, are from the families of workers and farmers, who never had much chance to get an education before.

The American curriculum is behind the Chinese, so I had to spend the summer making up elementary algebra. If you think you have a lot of work, with five subjects, think of me with 10, including chemistry and physics, intermediate algebra and geometry and trig!

One day I was talking about our ''new'' school with one of my roommates, and she told me that in the old days there were sometimes only 16 students to a classroom, so there were lots of empty seats. School fees were so high that only the rich could afford to pay. Now the school has about 2,000 students, about three times as many as before, so we have to use all the spare rooms for classes until the new buildings are finished. The fees are much lower now, and soon it won't cost anything, just like at the universities. Education isn't compulsory yet because there aren't enough schools; they're filled to overflowing as soon as they're built.

Going to school here is different in a lot of ways. I remember how glad we used to be to get out in the afternoon, and looked forward to those long holidays. But now I realize that it's a privilege to be able to go to school, and so do my schoolmates. We study pretty hard, but it's all interesting, and we help each other out. We don't have to worry about getting jobs, either, because there are 10 jobs waiting for every college graduate!

Our school library has translations of English, American, Soviet and other classics, and since my Chinese is getting better, I'll soon be able to read them all. Sometimes the whole school goes to a movie, but nothing like those romances and gangster pictures we used to sit through. The pictures we see have their love interest, all right, but the heroes and heroines are people who try to build something or make it better. The villains are the ones trying to kill or destroy, and they're not glamorized, but shown up for what they are.

We have a lot of sports, and we all get into something, not like in the States, where most fans sit and watch professionals play. Schools, the Army, unions and other organizations hold track meets, and they have their own basketball teams. The importance of a strong and healthy body is emphasized, so sports don't only belong to the professionals, but to everybody.

And dancing! Well, you should see how everybody likes to dance, regular ballroom and folk dances, like our square dancing. My schoolmates say this is something new; there didn't used to be so much dancing, because the old Kuomintang discouraged it, and anyhow, nobody had enough to eat to feel much like it.

I'm living at the school, and since Shanghai is an early-to-bed and early-to-rise town, our rising bell rings at six. But unless we have tests, we can snatch another half hour in bed before breakfast.

I'm getting somewhere with the language, but it's very hard because there are different dialects. ''Mandarin'' is the standard dialect, so I'm concentrating on that, but here everybody speaks Shanghai dialect, which is quite different. I hope my spelling has improved. It should have, because I'm in fourth year English, and we often have spelling tests, writing the Chinese translation next to each word. But when I tell my classmates that Chinese is harder than English, they think I'm only kidding!

Since Chinese has no alphabet, but a character for each sound, foreign names have to be transliterated with one character for each syllable. Some foreign names take up almost a whole line. ''Alps'' is only four letters, but in Chinese it's four words, ''ah le pu sse.''

The other day I went to one of the bookstores and bought ''Tom Sawyer'' in Chinese for my mother, so she can study it, using the English alongside.

I hope you have a wonderful time over the holidays, and write and tell me all about it. Best wishes for a peaceful New Year!

Yours,

Xenia

Report from Ipin

Chang Jen-kai

THE second highway to be built in Szechuen within the past three years was completed in 17 months and opened to traffic in time for the National Day celebration last October 1.

Starting from Ipin, the new highway twists and turns southwestward, through Chinfu, Kaohsien and Hsiunglien, over difficult terrain, crossing two rivers and 524 bridges and tunnels, and ends at Tangpa. The 95-kilometer road is an important highway and its construction was only a little less difficult than the building of the Kwan-meng highway in north Szechuen.

The Kuomintang collected six different levies to pay for the Ipin-Tangpa highway, over a period of 20 years, but not a single worker was hired. Meanwhile, the people living in the mountainous Tangpa area had great difficulty in obtaining salt, cloth and other necessities, while their own products, including tea, silk, herbs and hides, barely trickled to the markets, owing to the difficulty and cost of transportation.

Ten thousand men worked on the road. Four new wharves were built on the Chin Sha and Min rivers to handle construction materials, and the whole project required the cutting of thousands of cubic meters of stone and the blasting out of whole cliffsides.

At one point, the projected line ran along the face of White Cliff, high above a rushing stream. When the first group of stonecutters arrived at the new camp near White Cliff, two big leopards dashed out of the camp and ran into the forest. Undaunted by the danger from wild animals, the workers attacked the 150-foot cliff.

Some of the younger ones set the example for the others by lowering themselves down the face of the cliff by ropes to bore holes for the dynamite charges. The stone was so hard that the drills quickly became dull, but the men kept at their task and by trying different methods of drilling they finished their dangerous job in record time.

The workers' spirit was shown also at Pingtan, where a stone bridge was constructed. The plan called for the work of 75 experienced stonecutters for a month, but only 22 stonecutters were available. Not discouraged, they began work, and 30 other men joined them. The stonecutters showed their technique to the others, and helped them to learn on the job.

Sometimes they started an hour before sunrise; sometimes they worked by moonlight. The administration advised them to take it easier, but the men pledged not to slacken their efforts until the trucks started rolling along the road. With such a spirit of mutual help and enthusiasm, the 52 men completed the bridge ahead of schedule.

THE new highway played its part to facilitate the carrying out of the many contracts signed at the south Szechuen conference to promote the interflow of goods, held in Luchow during July. After the "Five Anti's" campaign (against illegal practices of businessmen, such as bribery and theft of government property), prices had declined an average of five percent, while as a result of government construction projects, the purchasing power of the people increased. Thus the demand for all sorts of goods consequently rose.

Business contracts concluded at the conference reached a large figure, with the participation of buyers and sellers from all the cities of south Szechuen. Buyers from the neighboring provinces of Yunnan and Kweichow took many south Szechuen products, including cloth and salt, and sold ham, lacquer, medicinal herbs and other of their own products.

The conference aided the various districts of south Szechuen to exchange their products. Loshan and Chienwei bought Ipin's charcoal and matting, for example; and the sugar and tobacco of Neikiang and Tzechong found new markets. The new Chungking-Chengtu railroad offers quick and cheap transportation for these products.

Quality of products was discussed also, and in some instances sellers guaranteed to improve their standards. Sulfur from Kusong and Kunghsien, for example, used to be sold in East China, but the quality deteriorated and business fell off. At the conference, suggestions were made to improve the quality and the Native Products Company ordered a shipment.

Farmers also benefited from the conference, selling more than 10,000 hogs from the Ipin district alone, and in turn they bought some 200 threshers and other machines.

The merchants who thronged the conference, observing the business methods of the state-owned enterprises, developed a new attitude toward business. Formerly, private merchants conducted their business along the lines of high unit profit, only, but now they see the advantages of doing a high volume of business at a lower unit profit rate.

SOUTH Szechuen, along with the rest of the nation, took part in the health and hygiene movement. A preventive rather than curative program, the results were a great decrease in death and disease rates.

Every village and city district launched a clean-up campaign, under the slogans of "Five Killings" (flies, mosquitoes, lice, fleas and bedbugs) and "Four Cleannesses" (food, clothes, house and utensils). Local governments called on everyone to be "models of cleanness," and after inspection, houses found free of flies and insects had posters to that effect stuck on the door.

With everybody pitching in, huge quantities of rubbish were cleaned out and harmful insects destroyed. Tzechong city in 20 days dredged four streams, cleared away more than 25,000 tons of rubbish, and killed millions of flies and thousands of rats. Such figures could be repeated for every town and village. The doctors also worked hard to make the clean-up drive a success, realizing that their duty is to help in every way to create sanitary conditions for everyone.

American POW's Write to US Delegates at Peace Conference

The following letters were sent to the United States delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference in Peking by three American prisoners of war in Korea. The three men—Lieutenants John Quinn, Paul Kniss and Floyd O'Neal—are US Airforce officers and each has admitted participating in germ warfare.

Dear Delegates,

Because you also want peace we join hands with you in that common cause. Because we know what you must have put up with from those in our country who opposed your coming to Peking, and because we know the trial of slander that will face you and your efforts when you return home, you have our deep and sincere respect. We stubbornly believe that you, in league with the other peace fighters in the US, can and will arouse the people out of their lethargy and force a reasonable peace in Korea. We are eager to join you as loud and active supporters in your efforts for permanent world peace.

That wouldn't have been possible before we were captured because we were blinded to the truth by our own (US) propaganda. Those were the days when we believed, as many still do in the US today, that it verged on treason to sign the Stockholm Peace Appeal. Of course, we hadn't read the appeal. Now we see things differently—thanks to the people whom we once called "enemies."

And you can tell the wise-acres in the US that "No," we haven't been duped, we've simply become a little wiser. Nor have we memorized new pat phrases with which to answer all questions (that system doesn't work when put to the test we've found out). This time we've studied and reasoned things out for ourselves. They certainly don't add up to the line of crap that sent us charging in here to protect the world and our own families from the "Communist menace." The people at home who still swallow that line they're handed by the press and radio as the straight dope would gape at us open mouthed if they could hear us talk for a while.

I ask you if it isn't pretty unusual to see common, everyday Americans sit down calmly and discuss such subjects as scientific socialism and communism. Of course, we don't all agree on its being good for the US, but there is the freedom to favor it without fear of disrespect—something new, freedom of opinion! Through that open-minded, objective attitude or approach, we've been able to discover the real exponents of war. And Oh! how we want to tell the world about them.

We're not all agreed on all things; we aren't all cut out of the same cloth. But one thing we are agreed on and that is the US is deliberately stalling the peace talks by taking a stand that doesn't approach being reasonable. This is a dirty, foul, rotten war as everyone who has seen it can tell you. Can anyone who has heard the orders to "shoot anything that moves" or "shoot anything in white" (the traditional Korean civilian dress), or of "operation killer" doubt that it is?

Yes, they fail to get the point. Before having this chance to study I found excuses for such orders and for such operations. Yet if we make the results of such orders our business and look these results squarely in the face, we come away sick. But let's get specific by looking at the surface of this slime, just the surface.

This was a story that was going around. A fighter pilot reporting back at de-briefing said, "Boy! I really got 'em, at least 50." "Fifty what, where?" he was asked. "Chinese," the pilot went on, "in a school yard, they were disguised as little kids playing hop scotch." The pilot, and those who heard him thought this was pretty witty. But what type of situation makes such morbid stories wit? Obviously it's an effort to laugh off, or get rid of an inward feeling of guilt.

The fellow who told me that story told me of an actual mission he'd been on. He dove down to strafe an ox cart as per standing instructions, and was somewhat disconcerted because the old Korean leading the ox didn't dive for the ditch. "What could I do?" he complained, "the 50 calibre slugs picked him clear off the road and the ox dropped like its legs had been cut from under it." No, the ox cart didn't explode nor had he ever met anyone who'd seen one explode, but he heard they sometimes did.

One night I was on a B-26 mission working for the first

First lieutenant John Quinn, 17993A, a US Army Airforce pilot, is 29 years old and his home is in Pasadena, California. Quinn is shown on the right testifying to his participation in germ warfare before the International Scientific Commission.

time under flares. Outside the region of light were mountains and they certainly didn't soothe my nerves. I'd worked myself into a nervous frenzy trying to locate some trucks that had been reported in the valley. Luckless and exasperated I gave up the search, punctuating it with two 500-pound bombs on a village below. "Man," the pilot of the flare aircraft said, "You sure woke somebody up that time!"—"Chinese barracks" we called them.

If these two incidents are typical, they are typical on the side that's easier to look at. Pilots who haven't such incidents on their conscience are rare. Have you ever heard of clearing a road of refugees with 50 calibre machinegun fire? I have. No, thank God, I wasn't there, but such stories aren't told by anyone to gain prestige, they're passed in like troubles. This is just a sketchy glimpse of Van Fleet's "blessing in disguise."

There is one other thing I'd like to mention, another stench from this miasma they call a "police action," and it rates a separate paragraph. It raises the question: What are we becoming? Many of us, more and more of us, can compare ourselves with Hitler's butchers and honestly ask, "What's the difference between us and them?" I refer to germ warfare. You know it's being used. You've seen the proof of it. But the people back home don't know about it. We're counting on you to prove it to them. We know they'll stop it and we want it stopped. Please, we know it will be difficult, but let the people know.

Germ bombs not only kill people on the ground but they do something to the person that drops them. Once you harden yourself to germ warfare you've become a machine capable of anything. If the chauvinistic propaganda in the US is still too strong for the people to realize that Koreans and Chinese are just as real and just as human as we are, then let them consider what's happening to "their boys" who are conducting germ warfare. And ask them to think, as we have, about the morals and motives of those who would order its use. Ask them to think about the statement of the senator who said that it may sound cold-blooded to say so, but the atom bomb was a poor weapon since it destroyed so much property, and that what we need is a weapon that would only kill people. Make them realize it is being used and don't let anyone dope them into accepting it. Germ warfare must be outlawed!

I don't know how much of what we POW's say is worthwhile. We're none of us writers, but we are all chafing at the bit to be heard by our people back home. We don't dare say the things we'd really like to in our letters home for fear they'll go into file 13 in the censorship office. As it is, my wife has only received one letter from me and that one was broadcast by Peking radio. A correspondent sent her a telegram from Peking when she was due to have a baby on August third. She didn't get that. Why?

I have high hopes that some of the things I tell you here will get to the people. I know you can't just push a button and make that hope come true—"freedom of the press" can't be interpreted quite that literally. But maybe you can find a way. Surely the people want to hear from us. And just as surely we have the right to be heard. I know if we were to say something in favor of this war the *New York Times* would probably headline it, "Korean Hero Says So and So." But our first hand impression of this war, gained at the risk of our lives, supporting those policies we now oppose, ought to mean even more to the people. It is a warning to them that they are highballing it down the wrong track and this track leads to World War III.

The peace issue in Korea seems to revolve around the POW issue and as POW's we feel we have the right to say something about it. We've seen enough of the Chinese to have a pretty good idea of how they feel about this issue and what they think about their new China. No one can tell me that any of them would ever volunteer not to be repatriated, much less beg to be 'saved.' They're not only tremendously proud of their new China, they are all fired up with the desire to get back and add to its peaceful construction under peaceful conditions.

But never could anyone at Kaesong agree to the American proposal on exchange of POW's because these people would consider that abandoning their comrades. And what else would it be? Can any reasoning human being believe that people would voluntarily write such messages as they have in blood? That's Tom Sawyer in "let's play pirate" stuff. Surely the same people who will carry such messages to a peace conference table would also provide ink, and surely only an idiot would use blood when ink is available—*if* this were all voluntary.

We want peace. We want it bad. I've got a little baby I've never seen. My kids need a daddy and my wife needs a husband. I need her. We all want to go home. But we want other things too. We want the root of this whole mess exposed and hacked out. We want a clear atmosphere in which we can breathe freely and plan a peaceful future. In short, we want more than just to get home to our families. We want some guarantees for their safety.

You have a long tough job ahead of you. You have our prayers for success and our respect. Get us peace in Korea and we pledge you our active support. Thanks for all you've already done. Thanks also for what we know you will do. What can I say—God speed!

For a peaceful tomorrow,

JOHN QUINN

* * *

LETTER FROM LT. PAUL KNISS

Dear Delegates,

This letter contains an unusual request so I thought perhaps I ought to first explain the reason for it. I believe our mail home is being stopped or restricted to a minimum by the US authorities at Kaesong. In order that my loved ones and the American people can learn the truth about us prisoners and how we feel about this war, I hope you will take home a message to them about us.

When I write to anybody I always try to compensate for my poor writing ability by my sincerity, so please believe me. We men who are prisoners of war are behind the Americans working for peace 100 percent. We are trying to end this war

First lieutenant Paul R. Kniss, US Airforce Reserve, AO-1909070, is 25 years old and is from Monmouth, Illinois. Kniss (left) is testifying before the International Scientific Commission.

and all wars also, but being so far from the American public we are restricted to a certain extent in our efforts. The support and help that we have received from the Chinese Volunteers in this fight shall never be forgotten. You have undoubtedly seen in Peking, and in all China, all the Chinese people want is peace.

My news on the Peking peace meeting is very limited. Our newspapers take several days to arrive, but I am sure you have heard my name mentioned with germ warfare. I and several other pilots are doing all we can to expose this atrocity, and we would welcome all the support you can give us in America. This weapon that is currently being used in Korea and China can very well be used against the American people also. We are trying however to stop it before it spreads that far. Please give this issue a lot of publicity in America. Ask the people's help in stopping it.

One other thing that I have noticed about the news from America. Very little, if any, reference is being made about us men in the American newspapers. You can't possibly imagine how our hopes and dreams have been shattered by that farce at Kaesong. I love my wife and family. I love my country, and I can see no reason why I can't be with my loved ones in America. Please make the American people see that Americans are being kept away from their loved ones by that stupid, unreasonable argument on prisoner exchange.

The Chinese Volunteers are very kind, and even help us celebrate our national holidays, but Thanksgiving and Christmas will never seem right so far from home.

A closing word about our life as prisoners of war. You will never hear of a prisoner being beaten or mistreated at the hands of the Chinese Volunteers. Our food and recreational facilities are as good as conditions permit. The Chinese have truly gained American friends by this policy. This is the only reason being a prisoner under such conditions is bearable.

No pressure of any form from my captors has ever influenced me in my desire for peace. It is only a vast love for my loved ones and my country. So will close by saying: "Thanks a million for everything."

Sincerely,

PAUL R. KNISS

* * *

LETTER FROM LT. FLOYD O'NEAL

Dear Delegates,

You have never heard of me before? Well, I've gained quite a bit of notoriety for myself in this part of the world. I am one of your fellow countrymen who has participated in waging germ warfare over here in Korea. I'm a US Air Force pilot who was shot down, and I've "squealed" on those rats who ordered me to drop germ bombs.

Though you may not know me, I've read quite a bit about your participation in the great peace conference in Peking. You just can't imagine how much that peace conference means to us who are POW's, especially we who have had a part in germ warfare. No one wants peace more than we do. Peace is a part of every fiber in my body. How thrilled I was that US delegates got to Peking! We were worried for a while about that, and if praying had anything to do with your being there, I helped! The big thing is that you made it, and by so doing helped ensure the success of the peace conference.

You have seen what peace means to China. You saw the National Day Celebration. Is not the progress of China great in only three years? The significance of China's might must be noted—it is all on the side of peace! You know this by now, of course, but it is always worth recalling.

The favor I request of you is this: will you write my mother when you get back in the States and tell her you have heard from me? Our mail is censored by the US authorities, and I have had no word from my family since my capture seven and a half months ago. Neither do I know that my family knows I am safe. I desire this very much as I am the second son to be "missing" in Korea, which is a heavy blow to any mother.

Now I come to more serious matters. Have you seen the exhibits on germ warfare and heard our testimonies? Good, for then you know the truth. I had an opportunity to tell the International Scientific Commission Investigating Germ Warfare about my part in it. Get a copy of the Commission's report and take it back with you. Or perhaps you'd better mail it if you want to get it past customs. Anyhow, read the report.

O.K. Now you're in on the "secret" of germ warfare. But there are still 149,000,000 US citizens who don't know the truth about the crimes that are committed in their names.

I was flying a US aircraft carrying US germ bombs—if that's not the name of my country I don't know what is! Of course, the US people didn't send me on that mission, the Air Force did. But we are supposed to represent the people, and it's high time the people know the truth about Korea! And not only about germ warfare, but about the mass bombings of civilian towns, the murdering of Chinese and Korean POW's on Koje Island.

On September 12 I listened to a bombing very near here for over three hours. What's over there? A town with a road through it, with houses, and people in the houses. Nothing like an oil dump or a marshalling yard or an airfield. The civilians are being bombed without mercy. That's only one case.

As for bloody Koje—chills run up and down my spine when

Floyd Breland O'Neal, a second lieutenant in the US Airforce Reserve, AO-1848575, is 24 years old and his home is in Fairfax, South Carolina. O'Neal, who was a graduate assistant in chemistry at Tulane University, is seen testifying before the Commission.

I think of US soldiers shooting down unarmed POW's who refuse to sign up for Rhee or Chiang Kai-shek.

That's part of your job when you get back to the States—to tell the people these facts. Of course, the peace conference is the highlight, but these things I've been telling you about are all designed to prevent peace, to spread the war.

I beg you, don't fail us! The people have a right to know the truth, and you can give it to them. You know the danger to peace is great, so fight that much harder to win it! You know that no one wants to see their loved ones die, yet as long as the Korean war goes on, many more Americans will die and loved ones grieve.

You are now in a position to do something about the situation. You can tell what you've seen, heard and read. Please do! Give press conferences, write press releases, get on the radio if you can. Everything you have learned in Peking must be told to the people of the United States. If you love our land as I do, you will not fail her in this hour of great need. Our nation is great, but right now our hands are rather soiled with innocent blood! So we must clean up the mess. Tell the people! You can, I can't now.

Just telling the people these things isn't quite enough. You must tell them to take some sort of action. They must rise up and let the government know they mean business when they say they want peace! They must join together to fight for their own self-preservation.

This is no dime novel, these world events today. This is a time of great danger to the whole world. Tell the people to get the lead out of their jeans and start the ball rolling in the United States for peace!

My fondest regards go to all you delegates, my fellow countrymen. You are wonderful Americans, you people. You have done our nation a great service by coming to Peking, and you can do a still greater service when you return home. More power to you all. Please leave no stone unturned to spread the truth all over the 48 states! I wish you good health, a pleasant trip back to our country, and success in your heroic task of fighting for peace. God speed, and God bless you.

Respectfully yours,

FLOYD B. O'NEAL

CHINA NOTES

Rising Purchasing Power

ALONG with the turn for the better in new China's economy the purchasing power of people in all walks of life has risen rapidly. In 1952, for instance, salaries of white collar workers averaged an increase of from 60 to 120 percent when compared with 1949, just before all of China was liberated. Workers' incomes have generally passed the pre-war level, and government workers' salaries have on the average risen from 10 to 30 percent, with those in some regions faring even better.

The steady rise in purchasing power is reflected in the increased sales of consumer goods. By the end of last year, the sale of cotton yarn was up 30 percent over 1951 (59 percent above the peak year under the Kuomintang); coal and charcoal were up 22 percent (41 percent ovel the top year under the KMT); and grain was up 59 percent. Taking the sales index for flour in February 1952 as 100, sales jumped to 376.61 last September and hit 384.87 in October.

The following figures, based on statistics from China's six administrative regions, give some idea of rising purchasing power:

EAST CHINA — Last year, peasants' buying power was up 25 percent over 1951. In Shantung province, for example, it was 195 percent above that of 1949 and 35 percent over 1951.

CENTRAL-SOUTH CHINA — In 1950, workers' income in this region was six percent above 1949, the last year of KMT rule, and by 1951 it was 13.26 higher than 1950. In Kwangtung province last year, as land reform neared completion, the peasants' purchasing power was 20 percent higher than before land reform.

NORTH CHINA —Last year, purchasing power in both the cities and in the countryside showed an average increase of 16.3 percent when compared with the preceding year. In Inner Mongolia, an extremely backward area before liberation, buying power was up three to four times that of pre-liberation days.

NORTHEAST —In this longest liberated administrative area of China purchasing power was 3.95 times the 1949 level. This is clearly indicated in the sales of face soap which last year went up seven times over sales in 1950.

SOUTHWEST—Compared with 1950, purchasing power last year in the countryside increased 65.33 percent, and in the cities it was up 63.58 percent. In Szechuen province, peasants' purchases in 1951 were 15 percent above those in 1951, and last year they were 10-15 percent higher than in 1951.

NORTHWEST— The rise in purchasing power is reflected in three ways: the narrowing of the price gap between industrial and agricultural products, increased sales of animal and local products, and the increase in the business of state trading companies. For instance, in cities such as Lanchow and Tihua, where herdsmen had been forced to sell at low prices to Kuomintang-landlord monopolies, wool prices have gone up from 6.5 to 48 times as a result of large-scale purchases made by the state trading company and the reasonable adjustment of prices of agicultural products. In Sinkiang province, peasants' purchasing power has increased more than 100 percent as compared with pre-liberation days.

Soviet Artists Visit China

ONE of the highlights of Sino-Soviet Friendship Month, from November seventh to December sixth, was the visit to China of three hundred Soviet artists and entertainers. Made up of cultural workers, world-famous artists, cinema workers, and the 259-member Soviet Army Red Flag Song and Dance Ensemble, the delegation gave performances in over a score of cities before packed audiences.

During their China stay, the Soviet artists and entertainers were estimated to have reached directly and through broadcasts, an audience of well over 20,000,000 people.

Typical of audience response in China was reaction in Shanghai to the December 5 concert given by the Red Flag Song and Dance Ensemble which was broadcast throughout the East China area. During the radio program, more than 10,000 letters, 2,000 telephone calls, thousands of bouquets of flowers and hundreds of gifts poured into the studio to pay tribute to the ensemble.

Performances were not restricted to a few cities. In addition to major cities such as Peking, Mukden, Tientsin, Nanking, Shanghai and Canton, the visiting artists and entertainers went to Sian and Lanchow in the Northwest, to Chungking and Kunming in the Southwest, and to Changsha, Wuhan, Hangchow, Nanchang and Hsuchow.

Ranking Soviet artists and entertainers made up the group, many of whom were Stalin prize winners and included the following internationally famous artists:

V. G. Zakharov, People's Artist of the USSR, thrice Stalin prize winner, composer, and secretary of the Union of Soviet Composers of the USSR.

M. D. Mikhailov, singer, People's Artist of the USSR, twice Stalin prize winner.

Tamara A. Khanum, singer, People's Artist of the Uzbek SSR, Stalin prize winner.

G. S. Ulanova, ballerina, People's Artist of the USSR, thrice Stalin prize winner.

L. B. Cogan, violinist, international prize winner.

M. A. Ptitzyn, acrobat, artist of the Moscow State Music Hall.

D. I. Chitoshvili, magician.

S. V. Obraztzov, People's Artist of the RSFSR, Stalin prize winner, art director of the Puppet Theater.

N. Cherkassov, People's Artist of the USSR, deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Stalin prize winner, who played the leading role in the films "Alexander Nevsky," "Ivan the Terrible," and "Alexander Popov."

China's Mineral Reserves

"ESTIMATES of China's reserves of coal, iron and a number of non-ferrous metals have been greatly increased as a result of careful geological work," J. S. Lee, Minister of Geology, reported at a press interview in Peking. In addition, work in the past three years has proved that China has petroleum, Dr. Lee said. "Numerous geological structures of a petrolific nature have been located in oil-producing regions through detailed geological mappings and by systematic application of geophysical methods."

Dr. Lee revealed that it has now been proved that the coal reserve in Northeast China exceeds by 10 times the previously accepted figure. Likewise, one of the big iron mines in North China is now known to have a reserve 10 times greater than had been supposed.

"The founding of the Chinese People's Republic opened enormous new vistas for geology," said the minister. "Day by day we are discovering new riches in our country, many of them unexpected." •

On the theoretical side, "our geologists have brought home many new finds which enable them to discard old fallacious conclusions about China's geological structure, ancient climate and geography, and to open up new paths of scientific research without being deterred any longer by obstolete ideas, some of which were formerly imported under the influence of colonialism."

According to the minister, it is widely recognized in new China that geology is of the utmost importance to national construction. Heavy industry depends on thorough investigation of the resources of coal, iron, petroleum, and other minerals. Sections of routes for railroads and highroads, sites for ports, dams and foundations for buildings and bridges require careful geological survey by experts.

Achievements since liberation, although only a beginning, Minister Lee said, are of an encouraging nature. In 1950, there were 29 geological survey teams which went to the Northeast, Northwest, Central-South China, North China and East China. They investigated coal, iron and non-ferrous metals resources and surveyed sites for railroads, reservoirs and factories.

In the following year, 83 geological and palaeontological parties spent six or more months in the field. They located and evaluated mineral deposits in various areas, and further carried out research into the problem of intricate geological structure and the history of the regions surveyed. Physiotopographic mapping of key areas also was carried out for railroad construction and water conservancy work.

Last year, 87 teams of geologists conducted field work in copper, lead, zinc, iron and coal deposits. Plans for 1953, the minister reported, envisage a still greater expansion in the scheme of general survey as well as detailed investigation into mining areas.

Free Health Service

BEGINNING last summer free medical treatment for all government workers went into effect. Under this free medical care system, all medical expenses are borne by the government. This system was first carried out in some of the areas and departments of the old liberated areas, factories and mines, and areas inhabited by national minorities. With the gradual improvement in economic conditions, wide application of this policy to all government workers has become possible.

A true story

"Reunion"

Chan Kiang

PAO Tung-hua, who lives at Jang-ho-chieh village in Honan province, is an attractive and able woman of 35 who is village delegate to the county peasants' representatives conference. Looking at her today one would not imagine that she had been leading a wretched life only a few years ago.

Tung-hua had been married when she was 20 years old, a marriage completely arranged by her parents. Her husband, who was inclined toward poor health, would never do any work. He had frequent nose bleeds and was always very pale. The father-in-law spent the whole day in the fields and had no other interests. The mother-in-law, who ruled the household, was a typical old-style tyrant and missed no opportunity to humiliate and abuse Tung-hua.

Her mother-in-law had a reputation in the village for her bad temper and did nothing but find fault with her daughter-in-law. Every day there was something to complain about—the gruel was too thick, the soup was too thin, or Tung-hua had wasted a few grains of millet.

Tung-hua not only had to bear all the old woman's malice and insults, but her husband's two sisters, who still lived at home, also abused her. And despite her husband's seeming fraility, he outdid all the others in mistreating his wife. It was not rare to see him beating Tung-hua. When in a bad mood, he'd snatch up a stick or even a shovel and whack her with it.

Tung-hua blamed no one but Heaven for her misfortunes. Every day she started work before daybreak and kept at it till late in the night. But all her hard work brought no favors or kind words from her husband or mother-in-law.

In the second year after her marriage, Tung-hua tried to hang herself in the

Overnight wagon station in north China. — *Wang Chi*

grinding shed, but the neighbors rescued her in time.

After her baby boy, Kuan-yin, was born, Tung-hua gave up the thought of committing suicide. But her mother-in-law's attitude did not change in spite of the arrival of a grandson. She kept right on beating and cursing Tung-hua.

When the boy was four years old, Tung-hua could bear it no longer and insisted on living apart from her in-laws. There should have been harmony by now between the couple, but the husband continued abusing his wife. Tung-hua could only weep, and her face became more drawn and pinched as the months became years.

Then, like a thunderbolt out of the blue, Jang-ho-chieh village was liberated by the People's Army. As Tung-hua had been so terribly oppressed in the old society, she welcomed the reforms the new society promised and took an active interest in community affairs. Her community spirit quickly won the respect of all. All, that is, except her husband and mother-in-law.

She asked herself, "Now that I can earn my own living, why should I suffer at his hands?" And so she left her husband, taking the child with her.

Tung-hua and her son received a little more than two and a half *mou* of land in the land reform. She worked hard in the field during the busy farming season, and did handicraft work at other times. But despite her industry, it was impossible for her to look after the farm and do household work at the same time.

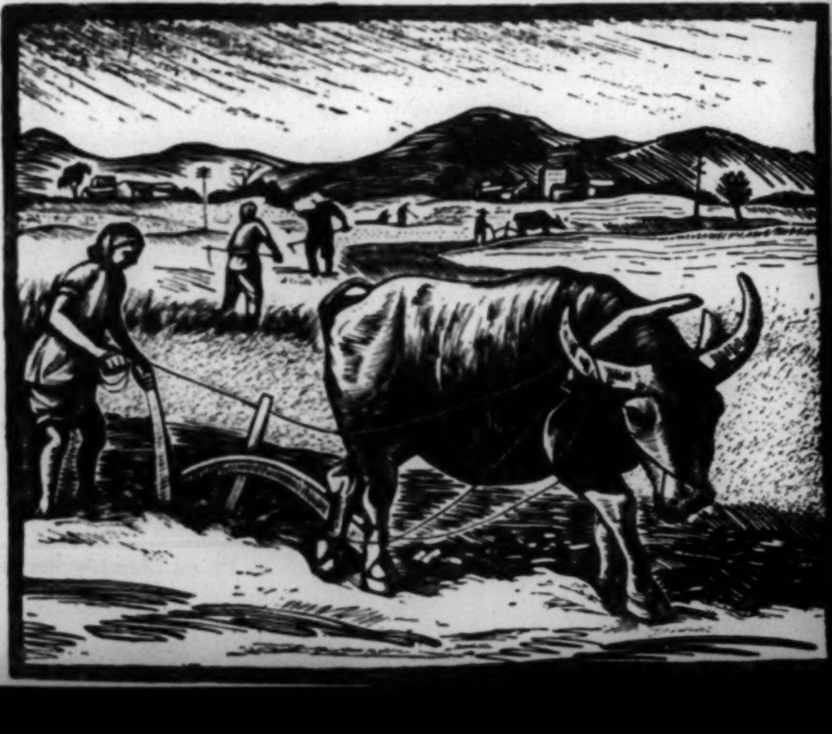
Her husband, Tung-ting by name, found himself in the same fix. Since Tung-hua had moved away, no one did the washing and mending for him. His two sisters were always out; his mother complained of all sorts of pains in her old body since she now had to do the cooking herself.

The new life meant changes for all of them. Tung-hua was elected delegate to the county peasants' representatives conference. The husband took an interest in working his own land and even joined the village militia to help protect the people's newly acquired rights. Better food and outdoor work made him much healthier and he no longer had trouble with nose-bleeding.

The elder sister married and the younger one was active in the youth organization. Even Tung-hua's parents-in-law were drawn into the community life, attending meetings and learning about the new society.

In May 1950, the marriage law was passed. Tung-hua and Tung-ting, as peasant delegate and militiaman respectively, were called upon to

Plowing the cornfield. — *Chang Tsai-min*



publicize and explain the law to their fellow-villagers. Both felt uneasy when they had to speak of Article 8 of the law, which says: "Husband and wife are duty bound to love, respect, assist and look after each other, to live in harmony, to engage in production, to care for the children and to strive jointly for the welfare of the family and for the building up of a new society."

But what about themselves? They were still living separately! Tung-hua thought, "We don't even follow our own preachings!"

One day in June, little Kuan-yin was weeding in the field when he heard approaching footsteps. "Kuan-yin, let me help you weed!" and looking up, he saw his father. He stared at him a moment, then nodded, "Go ahead!" and added, "I'll ask mother to treat you to supper." Kuan-yin ran back to tell his mother what had happened. "Bring your father back for supper," she said.

At dusk, Tung-ting arrived with Kuan-yin. There was a good meal prepared, and he stayed just long enough after supper to smoke one pipe. The same thing happened the next two days. On the fourth day, Tung-ting again took out his pipe after supper. By the time Tung-hua had finished washing the dishes and feeding the pigs, Tung-ting was still sitting there, smoking his pipe. "Where are you going to spend the night?" she asked him. "I'm not leaving!" was the answer.

Since that day everything has changed. Mother-in-law and Tung-hua are on good terms. Husband and wife are at last beginning to taste the happiness of married life, and working together they've been able to increase their income. Tung-hua has taken up spinning and weaving, which brings in enough to clothe the whole family both winter and summer.

Kuan-yin, their pet, will go on to middle school in the county seat when he finishes primary school. The boy is also adored by his grandmother, who sees what harmonious relations with Tung-hua means for her own happiness. She readily admits, "I'm to blame for breaking up our family life before!"

But Tung-hua has another explanation, "It wasn't you, mother. It was our old feudalistic outlook which upset our family just like many others."

Ten years after Kuan-yin was born, Tung-hua is eagerly looking forward to her second child—a child that will know only the love of his parents and grandparents. His arrival will be a happy event for all.

PEOPLE AND PLACES IN NEW CHINA

JULIAN SCHUMAN

SEEING is believing, but to this must be added hearing is believing to understand new China. The physical aspects of the new life of China's millions are here for the eye to see. Yet, in the spoken word of an ordinary Chinese worker and peasant, telling of past grief and present change for the better, is to be found the true feelings of the people. China is an ancient nation grown young, and to talk with her men, women and youth is to learn and begin to feel what liberation has meant.

The story of new China is the story of the people who are building a new country and no matter whom one talks to, whether it is said in the clear Mandarin dialect of the Northeast and North China, the staccato-like Wu dialect just south of the Yangtze River and around Shanghai, or the sing-song tones of a peasant outside of Canton in the south, the words are a simple yet vivid account of the new life that has been won—against the ever-present background of bitter days under the Japanese and the Kuomintang.

Returning from a trip which covered more than 5,000 miles from Northeast China down to Canton, in large cities and through the countryside, one recalls some typical incidents and words spoken.

KAO Gan is a cooperative farm in Northeast China which has grown out of the pattern of land reform and then mutual-aid teams. A few miles outside industrial Shenyang [Mukden], it is made up of 167 families comprising 720 people. Before liberation 61 percent of the people were poor peasants or tenant farmers, 30 percent were middle peasants and nine percent were landlords. Prior to land reform in 1948, some 90 percent of the land was owned by the landlords.

Forty-three year-old Jao Kuo-shun is about five foot three, deeply tanned of face with a heavy black moustache. Before liberation he was a hired hand without any land. Today he and his wife have their own land and house and she is the leader of the production department of the cooperative with seven women under her. Their six year-old girl is in the village nursery which used to be a landlord's storehouse. Both Jao and his wife are learning to read and write at night school.

Sitting in the afternoon sun with Jao outside his tiled-roof cottage, munching peanuts, hard-boiled eggs and baked sweet potatoes, he needed no prompting to tell the story of Kao Gan. In swift, flowing language he talked of how production has gone up and the peasants are buying more carts and horses and life has improved all around.

Food is plentiful and rice and flour are no longer a rarity. Jao told of how before liberation he had leased 20 *mou* of land and averaged 27 *piculs* of grain a year. But he paid 13 *piculs* to the landlord for land rent, six for land tax, two for extra taxes and he had to use up the equivalent of one *picul* a year to give gifts to the landlord at festival time. As a result he was forced to borrow at high interest rates.

We walked through the village and the nearby farmland rich with wheat. The things Chinese peasants must have dreamed of for so long are here: a tractor and the new threshing machine, loaned by the nearby tractor station, busy in the fields. For their children there is the new primary school which was built

Peasant women in Northeast examine new-type plows.

by the whole village in their spare time after the government advanced the funds for the material.

In the cooperative store one sees evidence of the peasant's rising purchasing power. Goods range from shoes and shirts, to notebooks, beer, cooking oil and gaily colored cotton cloth. We passed stacks of large round beancakes which are sold for fertilizer and Jao told how before liberation even if a peasant managed to have the price there was never enough. The spurt in buying power is apparent at the cloth counter where a steady rise in demand for colored cloth has been replacing orders for the traditional solid blues and blacks. The roundfaced clerk said that where four people could afford colored cloth right after liberation, today 50 can buy it. Purchases of cloth with bright designs during 1952 quadrupled those of 1951.

IN Mukden I met Li Ching-ming who has been awarded the title of model worker in a large clothing factory. However, Li does not work at a machine nor does he supervise a work shop. Bespectacled and looking younger than his 34 years, Li is a doctor in the factory.

Unlike many of Mukden's factory workers, Li did not suffer from unemployment during Japanese and Kuomintang rule. Sitting in the spacious lobby of what was once one of the biggest Japanese hotels in the city, he seemed more anxious to talk about his factory than about himself.

Li grew up in Kirin where his father, a doctor, had a small practice. Young Li studied medicine in Changchun and then worked with his father. A typical intellectual, he had no love for the Japanese who lorded it over the Chinese. When the Kuomintang came in after VJ Day whatever illusions Li had were quickly shattered by their corruption and greed and the chaotic inflation of those days.

After liberation a friend introduced him to his present job. "Here, for the first time," he said, "I was able to put my medical skill to use among working people. How could any worker have afforded a doctor before?"

In 1949 as the factory began to get back on its feet frequent reports of increased fatigue among the workers came in. Before, no attention was paid to such complaints. Now it was Li's job to look into it. He noted that the workers who were complaining of fatigue were all on the sewing machines and all of them suffered from colds and chest complaints. The cause was simple—a carry-over from the old factory—the machines were too low and the work benches too high, which resulted in excessive bending by the operators thus making it difficult for them to inhale properly. The problem was quickly remedied by raising the machines and lowering the benches.

Li shook his head with a slow smile as he spoke, "It was simple enough and I don't deserve any credit, but the lesson I learned here was that in the old days there was no such thing as health service in a factory and a worker just had to fend for himself. However, because this has resulted in raising production in our factory I was elected model worker by the workers at the machines and in the workshop."

LIN Tsun-ching is from Shanghai but I met him in Peking in the Peace Hotel—an eight-story building which sprang up from a skeleton of five stories in 44 days' time. Along with 15 others, Lin installed the two big elevators in record time last fall in order to have the building ready for the foreign delegates attending the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference.

Before I could ask any questions Lin told me that there were six workers from four different elevator companies in Shanghai who had volunteered through their unions to come to Peking. He said, "All this is quite different from before. Then people like us felt we were something of an elite and kept our work experiences and techniques to ourselves. Here, on this job we knew that hundreds of delegates from abroad were coming for peace, and the key to getting the job done quickly was working together and exchanging our experiences to help one another."

Lin works for the privately-owned Ho Chi Elevator Company in Shanghai. He is 39, the son of a fruit pedler, and started as an apprentice 20 years ago in the American-owned Otis Elevator Company in Shanghai. During the Japanese occupation, when the company was taken over, he tried to find odd jobs and sold rice on the streets in order to support his wife and three children.

After VJ Day the company resumed operations under its American management. What with the KMT inflation and a toadying chief foreman life was miserable. Recalling those days, Lin told how it was impossible to speak with the foreign manager, it all had to be done through the foreman. And at Chinese New Year the workers were expected to give the foreman a present. "You may not believe it," Lin said, "but if we didn't do this or didn't give his kids a wedding present the foreman would threaten to tell the manager that our work was no good and try to get us fired."

Lin thought a moment after I asked him about things today.

Peking's Peace Hotel, built in record time to accommodate foreign delegates to Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference.

"The best way is to say that just before liberation, when inflation was so bad, I earned enough to buy one *tan* of rice which was impossible to live on. Today, I get Y1,500,000 a month which is enough to buy 10 *tan*." He paused smiled and continued: "On this job in Peking I got Y1,900,000 because I volunteered. In addition, we have many benefits from labor insurance, and prices at cooperatives stores are lower than outside.

Lin has five children now, the eldest 12 and the youngest two. Three of them are in school. "Before liberation in 1948 and 1949," he said, "my oldest boy was only able to go to night school because fees were so high."

When I mentioned I would be returning to Shanghai, Lin invited me to visit him at his home in the Western district which he moved into in 1951. "You know," he smiled again, "I wouldn't have said this before when five of us lived in one small room. But my new place, well you come and look. There's a sitting room, a kitchen, a bedroom and a small courtyard."

SINCE 1194 the Huai River has brought flood and disaster to millions of peasants in North Kiangsu province. In the 1938 flood, 500,000 people died and 5,000,000 were homeless. Since 1950, the Huai and its more than 200 tributaries have been brought under control.

Huang Yu-jen is a 42 year-old peasant woman from a village

China no longer depends on imports of tobacco as nation's output increases yearly.

near the picturesque city of Huaian in North Kiangsu. She is one of the volunteer workers carrying earth on one section of the huge Huai River project.

When I asked her if it wasn't difficult for a woman to do such hard work she looked puzzled at first and then laughed and said it really was no more than a day's work on the farm. And, besides, she added, "I've been working all my life, most of the time for somebody else. Today, we're all working for ourselves here at the Huai and on our farms."

Huang Yu-jen knows of what she speaks, for in 1931, when the Huai River went on a rampage through North Kiangsu, she lost her first child. In those days she washed clothes in a landlord's home and her husband was a hired farm hand. They had no land of their own and in the famine which followed the flood they scraped bark off trees to get something to eat.

During land reform she and her husband received six *mou* of land and they are now enjoying good harvests. Two reasons for this, she pointed out, are the new fertilizers which have been introduced, and the mutual-aid teams. The medals she wore are emblems of a model farm worker. As a leader of a nine-family mutual-aid team she led her group of 42 people in raising production, and she also played a leading role in her village's health campaign last year.

Her 16 year-old boy is in the city studying to become a factory worker, while her small daughter goes to the new village nursery. Huang Yu-jen is studying the Rapid Method for Learning Characters, which has swept all China, and she expects to be able to read a newspaper and write letters in a few months.

I asked her how she was able to leave her farm and work on the Huai. "It's very simple," she said. "It's the slow season and anyway the other members of our mutual-aid team give my husband whatever help he needs. They're no different from us, they've been flooded out and whatever work I do here, well, they know that it's all to help everyone."

CHIH Yu-lan is a 15 year-old girl in a Nanking orphanage. This orphanage was taken over by foreign Catholics in September 1948 and from that date to January 1951, 377 out of 530 child inmates had died, and more than 100 were sold or given away just before the KMT fled its capital in early 1949.

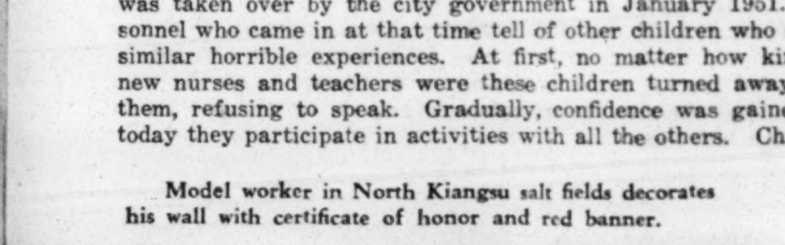
It is not easy to talk to this girl who, unlike ordinary Chinese children, looks much older than her age. Although she no longer fears people, it was obvious that Chih Yu-lan found it difficult to tell her story.

She came to the orphanage as an infant and like all the others she was given a French name—Marie, and knew nothing of the outside world. When she was old enough, she did odd chores. Then, when she was 12 she was sold. Here, Chih Yu-lan hung her head and only after some urging did she go on.

The Catholic sisters may have called the fee the old man paid "expenses," but in actuality Chih Yu-lan was sold to a small merchant in Nanking. The first night she was in his home he raped her. Wild with fear, she jumped from the second floor, injuring her spine but managed to crawl away. She wandered around the city for several days and finally limped back to the orphanage. The welcome she received was enough to warp any child for life. The authorities whipped her and put her on bread and water for a week and made her live in a cow shed as punishment.

This, in brief, is the story of Chih Yu-lan until the orphanage was taken over by the city government in January 1951. Personnel who came in at that time tell of other children who shared similar horrible experiences. At first, no matter how kind the new nurses and teachers were these children turned away from them, refusing to speak. Gradually, confidence was gained and today they participate in activities with all the others. Chih Yu-

Model worker in North Kiangsu salt fields decorates his wall with certificate of honor and red banner.



lan is studying weaving and although occasionally her large round black eyes reflect the sadness of her past, she has come a long way and enjoys reading books, playing games and participating in group dancing.

SHANGHAI, China's largest city, has more than 1,000,000 workers. Before liberation their shabby and run-down hovels ranked with the worst anywhere in the world. The workers had a saying: "If it rains for a day put on rubbers for 10 days." Shanghai's damp climate and muddy and unpaved lanes played havoc with their homes. No electricity or running water and a clogged sewage system were common in workers' districts.

Last summer, the first section of a large-scale housing project, designed to accommodate 100,000 people, was opened—the Tsao Yang Housing Development. On a bright sunny day I talked to a woman textile worker and her mother who had just moved into one of the new apartments.

The mother of Chu Hai-mei, the textile worker, gave a practical demonstration of before and after. The old lady interupted my talk with her daughter by showing me a small, low bench. Talking excitedly through toothless gums, she explained that this was the kind of furniture their eight-member family had to use in order to sit down in the five-foot high attic they lived in before.

Today, the daughter and mother share a modern flat with a sister and her two small children. The rooms are 100 to 120 square feet. The new furniture and radio were bought after liberation and the little bench is kept as a reminder of the old days when they were forced to stoop when they walked around their attic.

CANTON and its surrounding countryside is a long way from the Northeast. While the first icy blasts of winter sweep the fields in the north, the peasants in the south are watching their rich rice crops grow under a warm sun.

Yu An is a small village southwest of Canton, about an hour's trip by motor launch. It is part of Si Lung hamlet which contains nine villages with a total population of 2,600. Yu An itself has 45 families, most of whom were poor peasants or hired hands before liberation. Of the total area of 3,000 *mou* in the hamlet, more than half was in the hands of 18 landlords.

This area had suffered from floods before, and although it is rich in rice land, the average yield was only a little more than two *piculs* per *mou*. The repairs on dikes and irrigation systems have helped raise output three to four times. Land reform has meant 1.2 *mou* of land a person, including the former landlords who did not run away to nearby Hongkong.

Ke Yung is a 51 year-old peasant woman in Yu An who never married. Her life was the bitter struggle of a woman who for many years worked as a common farm laborer for different landlords. It was a hard life and it is written on her wrinkled face and calloused hands. It was a rare occasion when she could eat rice although the district produces bumper crops.

During the Japanese invasion Ke Yung ate whatever she could find—melons, wild grass, "anything I could get my hands on," she said recalling the days of actual starvation. It is simple enough to ask a peasant about life today. And in quiet words, Ke Yung replied:

"Ten times better than before!" and she told how she and her 19 year-old niece have their own three *mou* of land and are raising 28 *piculs* of rice a year, they have many chickens and

Members of an agricultural production cooperative in Hopei province apply fertilizer during spring sowing season.

the new five-family mutual-aid team they belong to is constantly helping them produce more. And now Ke Yung and her niece, both of whom never saw the inside of a school before, are learning to read and write. And, Ke Yung added wryly, her niece will not have to go through life unmarried as she did.

CHU Yi-ming is 22 and he works in the China Peace Committee in Canton. I met him on the train returning to Shanghai. Chu's parents were poor peasants in Shantung province who migrated to the Northeast where he was born. When he was three the Japanese invaded the Northeast and the family fled back to Shantung where the father and mother worked as tenant farmers. In his spare time the old man was a pedler trying to make ends meet. At eight, young Yi-ming went to Harbin with his eldest brother who worked there as a bookkeeper.

As the train sped across the long bridge over the wide Chientang River, which had been blown up once by the Japanese and once by the fleeing KMT, Yi-ming told me of how his brother had scraped and skimped in order to send him to primary school and then high school. He was not able to go to college, but after liberation he attended a university where he studied foreign languages. His family is back in Shantung now where they have their own land.

Enthusiastic over having mastered Russian, Chu Yi-ming hopes to be able to study English because, as he said, the English-speaking people are so many and so important in the struggle for world peace.

We were on the final lap of the trip from Canton, the last four hours to Shanghai. As the train picked up speed pulling out of Hangchow, Chu pointed to the new basketball courts in the midst of a small housing development for railway workers. I recalled similar places I had seen from train windows in so many parts of China. All along the way were the many newly-planted trees on hilly ground which once had been stripped bare, and then there were the clear signs of the nationwide health campaign among clusters of new brick and wooden houses such as the public lavatories and the spick-and-span plots of garden ground—all small things by themselves but, like the voices of the people of China, when added together, they signify an end to the old and the beginning of the new.

A NEW DEAL FOR

MINORITIES IN YUNNAN

CHANG SHU-I

YUNNAN, a province inhabited by many minority groups, was noted in pre-liberation days for hatred and strife between minorities—a conflict fostered by the Kuomintang and aggravated by desperately poor living conditions. Since liberation, under the policy of promoting unity among China's multinational groups, relations among the minorities of Yunnan have become friendly and cooperative, and their standard of living improves daily.

The Tibetans of Chung Tien *hsien*, for example, suffered greatly under KMT misrule. They were compelled to pay endless taxes and "special contributions" and were often provoked by the officials to fight other groups, while the former profited from these clashes.

Now these people are enjoying the right of freedom of worship, equality and democracy, and the old days seem like a bad dream. Immediately after the establishment of the local *hsien* people's government, the old unjust tax and allotment system was swept away, 70 tons of relief grain were issued, and 1,000 tons of grain lent out, along with farming implements, to help the farmers get on their feet.

This year the results of such assistance are seen everywhere. Farmers who formerly could manage to keep only one horse now have three; and most of the people, too poor before liberation to eat cheese, can now afford it.

In southwest Yunnan, thousands of armed militia, men and women, are guarding the frontier along with PLA men against possible incursions by the US-supported Kuomintang troops presently encamped in north Burma. One militiaman of the Nung race spoke for his group, saying that while the volunteers in Korea were defending the front gate, they were on the alert to guard the back door.

Trading, formerly almost stagnant, has begun to recover as a result of the establishment of 67 branches by state trading companies. These have done a large amount of business, purchasing hemp, tung oil and tea and selling cloth, salt and farming implements.

Better trade has helped to raise living standards; the Yi's of We-tin, who formerly wore hemp, now wear padded clothing; and the Tais of west Yunnan, who used to suffer from a lack of salt, are now able to purchase all they need.

Health has also come to the minority peoples, who only began to learn about vaccinations after liberation. In two years, six main and 36 *hsien* hospitals have been set up by the government, which in addition sent out 10 mobile medical units.

In 1951, several regional democratic union governments, with representation of the various minority groups, were formed in the Pao-shan, Mengtse, Likiang and Pu-erh regions, in addition to other administrative bodies. Short training classes were opened for minority nationals, to prepare them for government work, and there are now more than 2,500 working in regional governments at all levels. Some 150, who showed special promise, were sent to Kweiyang, Chengtu or Peking for higher education.

Formerly the children of minority groups, despised as "little savages," could not go to school; but now there are six middle and several hundred primary schools in minority areas, where nearly 20,000 children are enrolled.

A MOST significant educational development was the establishment of the Yunnan National Minorities Institute (YNMI) in 1951, one of the

★

Group singing in front of the auditorium of the Minorities Institute.

★

seven major institutes of its kind in China today.

Since the institute was opened, more than 1,400 students from 50-odd national groups, including the Lohei, Shantou, Mingchia, Kawa, Pumar, Miao, Yi, Yao and Mohsi, have studied there. They have come from all corners of Yunnan, from along the Yangtze, Red, Salween and Lan Tsang rivers, from jungle and remote mountain areas, and among them are model militiamen, labor heroines, model workers, and servicemen.

The various religious beliefs of the students are respected and provided for. The Christian students hold Sunday services, the Mohammedans have a house of worship and are served orthodox food, and the Tibetans' customs and religious occasions are observed.

The institute is housed in a beautiful building which was formerly the Nan Ching Middle School. Evergreens shade the grounds, and there is a small lake around which the students gather in the evenings, talking with the neighborhood children, or singing and dancing.

The old Nan Ching Middle School was a private one, and used to be called the "dandies' school." When I first came to Kunming seven years ago, one of my friends was surprised that I was to enter Nan Ching. "Is your father an official or a banker?" he enquired. But today the school is government-run and gives a higher education to those who never had a chance in Kuomintang times.

All required courses are useful and practical, and the whole program of instruction is designed to eradicate the

★

Basketball matches are often played with other Kunming schools.

★

ideas of narrow nationalism, while teaching patriotism and internationalism. National equality and unity is emphasized. Students are required to read and write well, and to prepare for work in their home districts after graduation.

Owing to differences of living habits and customs, the students were ill at ease when they first came together, but in a spirit of friendly comradeship they came to understand one another and became a firmly unified group. The various dialects spoken presented a great difficulty, but Chinese is taught as a common language and after a few months the students are able to follow lectures easily.

All the daily needs of the students are provided for. As soon as they enter the school, they are presented with new clothing, stockings, shoes, mosquito nets, bedding, wash basins and other necessities. Most of them hardly dreamed of having such luxuries in the past.

The main library contains thousands of volumes, and the club room is equipped for billiards, badminton, ping pong and other games. Athletic grounds are put to good use and the gardens and lawns are well-kept.

In such surroundings, the students make amazing progress, filled as they are with a great desire for learning. There could be no greater contrast with the Kuomintang policy of keeping minority peoples as ignorant as possible. In the old days, education was actually forbidden to some miniority groups.

During the past year, 685 students of various nationalities received training and, returning to their homes, took leading parts in their own governments. At present there are more than 700 students at the institute, who will also have an important role in the task of building a new China when they graduate.

Like the majority of people in all lands, these students deeply desire peace. In the years gone by, they suffered much from wars; their fathers and uncles were press-ganged by the Kuomintang, and they bitterly remember Japanese atrocities. Peace posters are seen all over the school, and the students are studying hard as their contribution to the cause of peace.

These are only some of the new and better ways that have come to the formerly oppressed and backward minority peoples of Yunnan. As living conditions improve and mutual hatreds disappear, a new spirit of unity and optimism is growing among them. What hatred remains is reserved for the KMT overlords and anyone who threatens their new life.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

"Asians Against Asians"

ON October 2, in a campaign speech at Champaign, Illinois, General Eisenhower said: "In Korea . . . what we must do first of all is to make certain that those South Koreans, of whom there are 20,000,000, can be prepared to defend their own front lines. There is no sense in the UN, with America bearing the brunt of the thing, being constantly compelled to man those front lines. That is a job for the Koreans. We do not want Asia to feel that the white man of the West is his enemy. If there must be a war there, let it be Asians against Asians. . ."

As American losses piled up on the Korean front there was an ever louder cry for substitute troops. Republican Senator Styles Bridges beat the "Asians to fight Asians" line in an article in the *American Mercury* calling for the arming of not only the South Koreans, but also the Japanese, the Kuomintang on Taiwan, the Filipinos and the Southeast Asians.

Quick to take up the cue was Syngman Rhee. In a booklet distributed to 60 UN delegations, Rhee declared: "Substitution of Korean troops for other UN troops in the front line could be achieved at a lower cost and would shift the burden where it belongs."

Meanwhile, even staunch anti-Communists were finding it difficult to go along with Eisenhower and company. Republican Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, who fell out with Eisenhower, stated in Portland on October 24: "Eisenhower very well knows that, since the outbreak of the Korean war, great efforts have been made to train more and more South Koreans for battle. He also knows, as a military man, that there are definite limitations to the training of South Korean troops, including the problems that we have in South Korea of weeding out the Communists who have infiltrated within South Korea itself." Military experts in the Pentagon, he added, have made it clear that without manpower support the South Koreans would be overrun in short order" were they "left alone in the Korean war."

"Can Koreans Take Over the War?" asked *US News and World Report* in its October 17, 1952, issue. The answer the magazine gives in a Tokyo dated article under this headline: "The idea that South Korean troops can take over the front lines in the Korean war is regarded by top military men here as a pipe dream."

After dismissing the Kuomintang troops on Taiwan, *US News and World Report* concluded: "The opinion of military men . . . is that the proposal for South Koreans to take over the shooting war is largely wishful thinking."

HEAVY US losses in the fighting in Korea and loose talk of letting "Asians fight Asians" were not unrelated. While the UN General Assembly was meeting at Lake Success in October and November and discussing the Korean question, US General Van Fleet suffered his severest defeat in over a year in the Kumhwa area where more than 20,000 troops were killed, wounded or captured and 112 planes were downed or damaged.

U.N. LOSSES IN KOREA

TROOPS KILLED, WOUNDED OR CAPTURED: 661,034.

US Troops	291,011
South Korean Troops	348,045
British Commonwealth Troops	18,578
Other Troops	3,400
Planes Captured, Shot Down or Damaged	7,333
Tanks Captured, Wrecked or Damaged	2,247
Armored Cars Captured or Destroyed	88
Motor Vehicles Captured, Destroyed or Damaged	8,273
Artillery Pieces Captured or Destroyed	4,280
Guns and Rifles Captured	69,899
Vessels Sunk or Damaged	10

This list of UN losses in Korea between October 25, 1950, and October 15, 1952, was issued by a joint war communique of the Korean People's Army Supreme Command and Headquarters of the Chinese People's Volunteers, commemorating the second anniversary of the volunteers' entry into the Korean war.

Ike Visits Korea

THIS is how South Korea waited for General Eisenhower's Korean visit.

Korean police threw a ring of men around the Golden Line, Seoul's 14th century 14-mile long wall, to guard President-elect Eisenhower against Communist infiltrators and guerillas. The police are questioning any newcomer to the city. (*Reuter*, November 25, 1952).

School children were ordered to wait in their school houses until 8 p.m. so they could dash out in the streets to welcome Eisenhower. They practiced their "I Like Ike" cheers. Meanwhile, 6,000 Korean military police and armed soldiers stood on street corners, in doorways and a long the approaches to the city. Hundreds of soldiers lined up at 50-foot intervals. (*UP*, Seoul, November 26, 1952).

South Korean police gaoled at least 400 persons in a four-day drive to clear Seoul of subversives who might endanger the life of President-elect Eisenhower . . . At the same time, Seoul was just about "welcomed out." Welcome banners fluttering in the stiff breeze were beginning to fray a little after four days. Yawning school children trudged back to class for more "Welcome Ike" rehearsals this morning but enthusiasm was waning. (*UP*, Seoul, November 27, 1952).

Seoul is an armed camp where thousands of US and Korean police and secret service men swarm everywhere . . . A common feeling, however, among police circles is that Seoul is not yet safe enough for the President-elect's visit. (*AFP*, November 30, 1952).

Some UN soldiers were frostbitten as they waited up to seven hours on parade for General Eisenhower . . . South Koreans today felt that the American president designate had snubbed them by the brevity and secrecy of his Korean tour. People here in Seoul were candidly disappointed. Nearly 500,000 attended a demonstration on Thursday [December 4] and stood ill-clad in temperatures little above zero for several hours. They did not see Eisenhower or hear any explanation of why he was not there. (*Reuter*, December 5, 1952).

When he launched the offensive Van Fleet announced that this was the time he could seize whatever he wanted. However, the result was a staggering defeat for the US army and its allies.

Two heights near Sangkumryung north of Kumhwa, with an area of only three square kilometers, were held by two companies. Against these two positions, the US Seventh Division, the South Korean Second Division and some other units were hurled, supported by over 100 tanks and the seldom-used Eighth Army's artillery reserves.

That Van Fleet suffered no small loss was confirmed in an *AP* dispatch of November 2: "The Allies have paid a price in blood and ammunition that has shaken the Allied commanders," and casualties were "surpassed only by the Eighth Army's disastrous defeat of 1950 in North Korea."

Tightening Up in Thailand

SINCE the beginning of the year residents of Thailand's capital, Bangkok, and of Thonburi have been required by law to carry identification cards. A *UP* dispatch from the capital on November 8, 1952, quoted a government official as saying the purpose was "to minimize subversive activities."

The Songgram regime has embarked on a full-scale assault against civil liberties in Thailand. Like other US satellites, Thailand now has its own "anti-Communist" law, which was passed last November 13, following arrests of more than 200 persons, including the president of the Thailand Peace Committee.

According to this law, the government can sentence people from five years to life imprisonment under the charge of "Communist acts." It also is considered a crime if a person fails to report acts against the "anti-Communist" law.

SINCE the end of the war, the US has supplanted Britain as the real ruler of Thailand. Beginning in 1948, America has taken a direct hand in military "aid" to Thailand, and in April 1950, Washington announced it would grant the Songgram regime US$10,000,000 to US$12,000,000 worth of military aid. In September of that year, agreement was reached whereby, in exchange for the re-equipping of its army, the Thai government undertook to send troops anywhere considered necessary in Asia, and to facilitate the flow to the US of strategic raw materials. In October 1950, a Military Assistance Agreement was signed with the US under which America provided arms and equipment and Thailand provided "some facilities for the purchase of certain materials" for the use of the US. The agreement also stipulated that the US would supply a number of officers and technicians for training purposes.

The latest "agreement" between Washington and Bangkok (signed in mid-August), according to a special correspondent of the *Delhi Times*, gives the US the right to build air bases on Thai territory. According to circles close to the Thailand Ministry of Defense, the US will conduct military construction on very favorable terms. Thus, in addition to air fields already begun in 1951, the agreement envisages the building of additional up-to-date military airfields in the areas of Chiengmai, Koret, Songkla and Chaitaburi.

American "specialists" will supervise construction work on the airfields, several of which, are "conviently" located in outlying areas near the borders of Burma, Malaya and Indo-China.

"Strong Man" Templer

BRITAIN'S "strong man" of Malaya, General Templer, who has been responsible for such measures as "collective punishment" in an attempt to put down the Malayan people's liberation movement had a hard time with British and European correspondents at a press conference during his London visit.

After telling pressmen that the war in Malaya was being "brought under control," (*UP*, December 4, 1952) the High Commissioner of Malaya was asked if he did not recognize his methods as being "fascist."

According to *UP*, "Templer finally lost his patience" when he was asked what was the "degree of malnutrition" among the people of Malaya.

"I don't know," snapped the general.

"Why don't you know?" the questioner pressed.

"You sit down and shut up or get out," General Templer said.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

CHINA VERANDERT SICH (China Turns Over), by W. G. Burchett. Verlag Volk u. Welt, Berlin, 5.40 DM. English edition published in Australia as CHINA'S FEET UNBOUND, available at Current Book Distributors, 40 Market Street, Sydney N.S.W. Reviewed by D.F.

HERE is a fully documented description and exposition of the new China and of the events leading up to the establishment of the new government. Mr. Burchett has unearthed many incidents that will be news even to those who consider themselves well-versed in Chinese affairs. He presents a wealth of material in a way that grips the reader's interest from the start; and some of his tales of the torture, perfidy and viciousness of Kuomintang China are sure to be overpowering in their effect.

Yet Chinese humanity has overcome stupendous hardships, and Mr. Burchett tells how the people of China can now look forward to a brave new life.

The author describes Mao Tse-tung's foresight, not only in political and economic affairs, but also in such matters as the development of art. Long before liberation, he started the movement to train artists, actors and writers for a truly popular art. Later, actors and actresses worked in factories for several months, in order faithfully to portray workers on the stage.

The book is full of human interest stories, told to the author by those personally involved, and it deals with every aspect of Chinese life, from the care of new-born infants (a revolution in itself), to China's future. The new life for the workers is vividly portrayed, with their improved working conditions, clubs and rest-homes; special attention is given to the stupendous achievements of the railway workers, including women.

The chapter on two methods of political education should be required reading for everyone, both in China and the West. One is the method used by the Communists to educate reactionaries, agents of foreign powers, saboteurs and bandits, a method based firmly upon the dignity of human beings. The other is the method used by the Japanese invaders and the Kuomintang against the Communists, a method of depraved viciousness.

Of special interest to Americans will be the chapter on Japanese concentration camps in Manchuria, where some prisoners were well fed as long as they could be used as compulsory blood-donors for the Japanese army. When they could no longer be bled, they were used with other prisoners for various fiendish experiments, including research in germ warfare. That the victims included American POW's is widely known in China but not in the West, since the responsible Japanese commanders were MacArthur's friends, and he has done all in his power to protect these war criminals.

NEVERTHELESS, this reviewer ventures the opinion that Mr. Burchett, carried away at times by his honest indignation at the abuses of the past, lashes out a bit too severely. He pours his vials of wrath on certain "hangers-on" of the Kuomintang in 1927; but surely there were many honest folk who then believed that it was the salvation of China. While bitterly denouncing the missionaries who came to China—the Luces, Prices, Shepherds, Fitches, Andrews et al.—he throws only a tiny sop to the few decent ones who desired only to spread the gospel.

Again, while women and girls were formerly held in political and economic subjection, and many were sold into slavery, it was perhaps not a picture of such unrelieved blackness as Mr. Burchett suggests. Chinese women, for example, were never expected to serve their husbands on their knees, as were the Japanese.

Despite an occasional over-emphasis, however, the book is excellent, and even this indicates how deeply the author feels for the people about whom he is writing. The story of China, its sickeningly gruesome past, its magnificently inspiring present, lives for the reader. The book is a must for the expert as well as for the beginner who wants information about this one-quarter of humanity.

TWO LEAVES AND A BUD, by Mulk Raj Anand. Kutub, Publishers Ltd., Regal Bldg. Apollo Bunder, Bombay, Rs. 3/12. pp. 227. First published in London 1937. Second Indian edition, 1951. Reviewed by W.B.

"BUT, John, these natives are lazy. And we must not spoil them. They are born liars. And they steal . . . . " So says Mrs. Croft-Cooke to her husband, the manager of a large tea estate in Assam. Croft-Cooke himself saw no point in spending the relatively small amount required to put in a sanitary water supply for the coolies; there were always others eager to take the place of those who died of cholera. His principle was simple: any coolie who worked hard was to be rewarded and any coolie who was lazy or made mischief was to be punished.

Mulk Raj Anand fills out the gallery of those who upheld the British raj in India with the assistant planter, Reggie Hunt, a creature of frustrated ambition, who saw himself in a rosy haze of pioneering with Napoleonic overtones. A hard drinker, he is as cruel to his mare Tipoo as he is to the Indians, whom he regards as subhuman, while satisfying his brutal desires with their wives.

There is Tweetie, the engineer, more intelligent than the others; but even he believed the Indians incapable of ruling themselves. He thought that the plantation worker's simple wants were satisfied, his customs respected. "He may be oppressed," he admitted, "but he doesn't feel it as we should . . . . "

The British doctor, de la Havre, is the renegade, through whom the author presents a devastating picture of the way the workers were exploited, not only on the Assam tea plantations, but all over India, of how the British appropriated the land and labor of a subcontinent.

Robert Bruce had once been the guest of one of the kings who ruled the independent Assam. Finding tea growing wild there, he interested the East India Company in it. The Company later entered a war which the king was waging "in their well-known role of arbitrators. And since the British had never done anything for anybody without seeing to what they could get out of it, they soon dethroned both the warring kings and annexed the country . . . " Then came vast tea plantations on which the tea pickers were forced to work at starvation wages which had risen only a trifle in 70 years.

The doctor has an affair with Barbara, the Croft-Cooke daughter, and through him she is forced to see the misery of the workers and the hypocrisy of the little British planter society. But what could she do about it? she asked herself petulantly; if only the two of them could get away, they would be so happy . . . ! At last she breaks with him, her brief flare of youthful revolt over; for all she wanted basically was "a respectable marriage with a certain amount of income . . . "

The debt-ridden, hopeless life of the coolies is presented no less effectively in the story of Gangu and his family, who come to the plantation to work. The book opens with Gangu, his wife Sajani, his 14-year-old daughter Leila and his boy Buddha on the train with Buta, their countryman. Gangu's brother had gotten into debt, and according to the "English law" the landlord had taken Gangu's piece of land as well as the brother's. Buta, full of fine promises about the kindness of the British sahibs, the high wages paid, the easy loans, the piece of land given to every worker on the plantation on which to grow rice, had persuaded Gangu to take a job there.

Gangu's disillusionment begins at the station, where there is no motor car, as Buta had promised, to take them to the plantation. The tin houses built for the workers were like ovens in summer and cold in winter. The Indian registry clerk calls them "sons of pigs" for coming at the wrong time. Worse, Gangu talks to Narain, who had fled from a famine in Bikaner; life there had been like a prison, he said, but here it was worse. There were no bars, but armed guards prevented anyone from running away. Coming on a three-year contract, he had been on the estate 12 years because his debts and interest were more than his small wages.

With Gangu's whole family working, earnings were less than eight annas a day. They walked two miles to a bazaar off the plantation to buy provisions at a cheaper price, only to find the arrogant merchant cheating the Tibetans who had brought grain to sell —and as he owned all the shops within 20 miles around, prices were the same.

THE CANADIAN FAR EASTERN NEWSLETTER

Published in Toronto by Dr. James Endicott, this monthly newsletter is one of the best sources of facts on the Far East.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: CAN.$1.25 PER YEAR

Canadian Far Eastern Newsletter
134 Glenholme Avenue
Toronto 10, Canada

Subscribers in China may order from the China Monthly Review Y32,000 per year.

Gangu is stricken with malaria and although he recovers, his wife catches it and dies. Then there is no money for her funeral; fuel was to be had for nothing from the forest, but the priestly rites were expensive. Gangu, in growing despair, goes to Croft-Cooke, who kicks him out, in panic fear of infection. Batu refuses him with false excuses, and he has to borrow from the money-lender in the bazaar.

Meanwhile Reggie Hunt has been casting eyes at the wife of one of the foremen. He dispossesses his current favorite for her, and one day the monotonous tea picking (always two leaves and a bud, two leaves and a bud . . .) is disturbed by a fight between the two women. All the injuries and oppression the coolies have suffered boils out over this incident, a mob forms, which is dispersed by the guards. Gangu is carried along, half-hoping, like the others, that at last they might do something. They go to the doctor, who tends the wounded and tells them to go and talk to Croft-Cooke.

Reggie Hunt and the others are panic-stricken at the "mutiny," and holing up at the Club in a state of siege, call for the RAF. The planes come, frightening the workers, bringing Tommies. The workers are beaten back to their quarters, and the planters' wrath falls upon the doctor, who is fired. Barbara refuses to go with him.

After the interlude of a hunt staged for H. E. the Governor, when the latter shoots one of the elephants instead of the tiger, Reggie goes after Gangu's daughter. She repulses him, but that evening he goes to their house; Gangu comes along, and in a frenzy Reggie shoots him. At the subsequent trial, the jury of seven Europeans and two Indians acquits him "by majority vote."

As the author tells us, in this book he criticized the planters for the first time, and his temerity brought a storm down on his head. Although he says he tended to caricature the British, to this reviewer their hypocrisy, their isolation, their arrogance and their fear of the people they hold in subjugation are true to life.

His characterizations of Gangu and the other Indians are sensitive, and he shows how a sense of common wrongs draws the workers together and overcomes the barriers of differing background. There is no use trying to run away, says Narain, "if there's anything to do, it must be done here." But nothing is accomplished after all; the murderer is acquitted and apparently life is to continue for the workers as before.

This seems to be the gravest shortcoming of the book. Gangu, taking part in the "mutiny" in spite of himself, is swept along by a force he only dimly comprehends. Then, when "order" is restored, he is fined, along with other "ringleaders," and he sinks into a state of resignation and universal forgiveness. It is too bad the author did not reach a more positive conclusion, showing the way to a change in intolerable conditions of life and work.

Nevertheless, as an indictment of the treatment given subject peoples by their white overlords in hand with their feudal masters, the book has as much point today as it had when first published in 1937. Millions in Asia, in the Middle East, Africa and other areas are still living like semi-humans, while their masters grow rich on their labor; but today the Malayan, Viet-Minh and Korean people are waging an armed struggle for freedom and independence which will enable them to live decent lives, as the liberation of China has brought to her people.

Report to Readers

THE vacation is now over, with all three of our editors-turned-roving-reporters firmly settled at their respective desks. Although physically back in Shanghai, the mind continues to wander, spending about half time off in such places as the open pit coal mine in sub-zero Fushun or recalling an interview with a shorts-clad student in sunny Canton.

The tendency toward such unproductive staring at the typewriter is increased by the fact that each editor's desk is piled high with notebooks, articles and article-outlines dealing with various places visited and people talked to during the past couple of months. In addition, we now have a sizable stockpile of articles on China written by various delegates to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference which we shall be running in the next couple of issues.

* * *

ONE of the first things to greet us upon our return was a stack of newspapers and magazines from abroad which had collected during our absence. As has become our custom, we glanced first at the headlines, then turned to read the flood of "think pieces" and reports on life in China written by the experts who interpret this country to the West from Hongkong or the even better vantage point of a swivel chair in the New York or London editorial office.

Just fresh from trips which together totaled well over 10,000 miles and which covered a fair-sized piece of the country, these accounts seemed more warped than usual. There was, for instance, a dispatch from New York written at the very time one editor was visiting the Huai River, which told of the "millions" of slave laborers being driven to work daily on the Huai. As mentioned in last month's *Review*, we pretty well wrote our own ticket on the Huai trip, traveling a criss-cross course of some 500 kilometers, going where we liked, stopping and starting when we liked, interviewing whomever we liked, whenever we liked. Somehow, though, we seem to have missed the chained "millions."

ONE of the more fanciful stories was an *AP* dispatch from New York reporting a speech by Governor Dewey, who has come to the fore as a "China expert" since his few days' visit to Taiwan in mid-1951. Among the more interesting tid-bits handed out by the governor was his estimate of the number of "Russian . . . conquerors" now "pulling the strings" in China. He didn't reveal the *exact* figure, but declared that it was "between 100,000 to 200,000."

For a man who got no closer to the soil than Madame Chiang's landscaped garden in Taiwan, Dewey showed remarkable knowledge of the rural situation on the mainland: "Taxes on the Chinese farmer today are ruthlessly collected and in larger sum than the total of the taxes plus rents they used to pay in the past."

Although we haven't had the opportunity for a chat with Madame Chiang, we'll venture to raise a point or two with Governor Dewey. We have just recently visited two Chinese villages, one not far from Peking where the peasants are beginning to reap the fruits of land reform, the other near Shenyang (Mukden) which carried out land reform some time ago and which has now divided itself into two cooperative teams.

All farmers talked to in both villages were emphatic on the point of taxation—lowest taxes anyone in the villages could remember. What's more, we'll bet the governor a dollar to a doughnut that the farmers we saw looked and dressed like millionaires compared to the ones he saw in Taiwan.

(And, just in case the governor or some other like-minded China experts are thinking of suggesting that what we saw was a "special show," that the minute our backs were turned all "100,000 to 200,000" Russian "string-pullers" jumped out of the haystacks and tore down the new school house and shipped off all the surplus food to Moscow, we're still covered. Deciding that we wanted a few more facts and figures, we made a repeat visit to the Peking village unannounced about two weeks later and found conditions just the same.)

AND then there were the usual run of the mill stories about religious persecution in "Red China." Christians, Mohammedans, Buddhists and others were described as the objects of fiendish persecution.

While in Hangchow recently, we spent a couple of afternoons doing the things vacationists always do in this famous resort city known for its many ancient temples and pavilions. All the temples we saw—about half a dozen of the larger ones—appeared in good shape and seemed to be functioning as usual. In one or two we watched Buddhist and Taoist priests performing their traditional prayer rites.

But the most revealing example of the new government's attitude toward these ancient religious buildings was the case of Lin Yin Temple. A fairly large establishment with a number of temple and monastery buildings, it was originally built in 300 A.D. Of course the buildings have been renovated, re-built and added to several times, but the main building, towering some five stories, has long been a landmark.

However, age and hard usage have taken their toll. Kuomintang troops occupied the temple just prior to liberation and the damage they inflicted proved the proverbial straw, the roof falling in shortly after they were removed by the new government. The whole structure is now being repaired and strengthened by the government which, despite the many urgent construction projects under way, has allocated substantial quantities of materials for the job.

It was really quite a sight. In the front temple, which had just had a new coat of paint, the monks were going about their business as usual, the gods and goddesses and the many rows of lesser deities stared down on the spectators as they have for centuries. It must have been much like this when Marco Polo visited China. But when we stepped out the back door to take a look

Report to Readers . . . .

at the main temple, we walked into a shambles of steel bars, sacks of cement, piles of lumber and bamboo scaffolding—all required by the construction gang which is using 20th century materials to preserve this architectural masterpiece. On one side were new steel braces and bars to give support to the ancient beams, while on the other side were pieces of the half-rotten wooden pillars, each so large that two men could not stretch their arms around them.

This, it seems to us, is a pretty good answer to the armchair analysts whose crystal balls are forever turning up pigs-in-mosques and cattle-in-temples.

* * *

IN addition to being productive on the editorial side, our trip to Peking also had other results. For many of the delegates, attending the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference was their first personal contact with China and a real eye-opener. Practically all left with an armful of books, magazines and papers—including a goodly number of *Reviews*.

Several delegates took out subs to the *Review* for themselves and friends at home, while many gave us the names of their hometown bookstores. This was particularly true of delegates from Latin America, an area with which we have had little contact in the past. One delegate took out subscriptions to the *Review* for 10 major libraries in the United States and England not now subscribing. Another took 14 combination "Yo Banfa"-*Review* subscriptions for friends to whom she wished to introduce the new China.

Our last bit of incidental intelligence is to report that our first venture into the book publishing field is turning out quite well. Our modest first printing of Rewi Alley's "Yo Banfa" has been sold out and, as this is being written, the first copies of the second printing are coming off the press. In addition, four English-language editions to be printed abroad are in the works, while it is being translated—according to the latest we've heard—into five foreign languages.

上海延安東路一六〇號密勒氏評論報發行
上海[illegible]路一一七號[illegible]有限公司承印

FOR Accurate, Analytical & Forthright Interpretation of Events in India

FOR Detailed Information of the Struggle of India's Millions for Bread and Freedom

FOR Sharp Exposure of Nefarious Plans of Anglo-American Imperialism and Their Agents in India

READ

Progressive Newsweekly

CROSSROADS

Subscriptions and single copies
available at Guodzi Shudian.
38 Soochow Hutung, Peking

INDIA AND PEACE

A Symposium

Edited by P. C. JOSHI

- India's Foreign Trade and Cold War . . . . by Dr. GYAN CHAND
- Anti-China Slanders in the Indian Press . . . by PT. SUNDERLAL
- Indians in Malaya's Liberation Struggle . . . by O. P. SANGAL
- Indian Socialists and Peace . . . . by Dr. SATISH CHANDRA
- Peace and Anti-Imperialism in Punjabi Literature . by GUR BAKHSH SINGH

Facts and Documents, Cartoons and Sketches, Poems

Order from:

INDIA TODAY PUBLICATIONS

Gulab Bhawan Knox Road
Allahabad, India

Price: Re. 1/- only

A vivid record of life in old and new China by a man with 25 years' experience in this country—

Yo Banfa!

(We Have a Way!)

by **REWI ALLEY**

. . . shows why the people of China, one quarter of mankind, had to get rid of their old corrupt rulers and build a new society.

193 pp, illustrated, US$1.00

●

China Monthly Review
160 Yenan Road E.
Shanghai 0, China

上海市軍事管制委員會・中國人民郵政登記證第一類新聞紙類
新聞出版處登記證滬字第一二九號・郵電部上海郵局登記執照第一六二號